

THE
Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XXIII.—NEW SERIES, No. 908.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 1863.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED... 5d.
STAMPED..... 6d.

SOCIETY for the LIBERATION of RELIGION from STATE-PATRONAGE and CONTROL.

A PUBLIC SOIREE in connexion with the Society will be held at MYDDELTON HALL, ISLINGTON, on TUESDAY EVENING, March 31st.

The Rev. A. M. HENDERSON will preside; And Addresses will be delivered by Rev. JOHN EDMOND, D.D., Rev. ALEXANDER HANNAH, WILLIAM HEATON, Esq., EDWARD MIALI, Esq., Rev. C. J. MIDDLEDITCH; Rev. ALFRED C. THOMAS, Rev. MARK WILKS, and J. CARVELL WILLIAMS, Esq.

Tea on table at Six, and the Public Meeting will commence at Seven.

Tickets of Admission to the Tea—Single, 1s., Double, 1s. 6d.—may be obtained of Ford and Son, 179, Upper-street; Mr. Starling, 97, Upper-street; Mr. West, 3, Pleasant-row, near Highbury Station; Miss Hinton, Camden Bazaar, Upper Holloway; Boshier and Vernon, 14, Goswell-road; at Myddelton Hall; and at the Society's Office, 2, Serjeants'-inn, Fleet-street.

OPENING OF
TOLMERS-SQUARE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH,
HAMPSTEAD-ROAD.

The above Place of Worship will be Opened (D.V.) and Dedicated to the Worship of Almighty God, on TUESDAY, MARCH 31st, 1863, when

TWO SERMONS

will be Preached, that in the Morning by the

Rev. SAMUEL MARTIN

(Of Westminster);

That in the Evening by the

Rev. ENOCH MELLOR, M.A.

(Of Liverpool).

Morning Service, Twelve o'clock; Evening Service, Seven o'clock.

A Cold Collation (including Tea), at Lawson's Rooms, Gower-street North, at Three o'clock p.m., at which W. S. LINDSAY, Esq., M.P., will preside. Tickets, 3s. each, may be had at the doors.

On SUNDAY, APRIL 5th,

Rev. JOHN GUTHRIE, M.A.

(Pastor of the Church), will Preach in the Morning;

Rev. WILLIAM LANDELS

(Of Regent's Park Chapel), in the Afternoon; and the

Rev. JOHN GRAHAM

(Of Oraven Chapel), in the Evening.

Morning Service at Eleven; Afternoon at Three; and Evening at Seven.

On THURSDAY EVENING, APRIL 9th,

Rev. W. MORLEY PUNSHON, M.A.,

will Preach. Service at Seven o'clock.

On SUNDAY, APRIL 12th,

Rev. JAMES SPENCE, D.D.

(Of the Poultry Chapel), will Preach in the Morning;

Rev. NEWMAN HALL, LL.B.

(Of Surrey Chapel), in the Afternoon; and

Rev. JOHN GUTHRIE, M.A.,

in the Evening.

Morning Service, Eleven; Afternoon, Three; and Evening, Seven o'clock.

Collections will be made at the close of each Service in aid of the Building Fund.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the MID-NIGHT MEETING MOVEMENT will be held (D.V.) at FREEMANSON'S HALL, on TUESDAY, April 7th.

Colonel WORTHY will take the Chair at Seven o'clock.

Admission by Ticket, to be obtained at the Office, 27, Red Lion-square, or Messrs. Morgan and Chase, 8, Amen-corner, E.C. Tea at Half-past Five. Tickets 1s. each.

THE ASYLUM for IDIOTS,
EARLSWOOD, RED HILL, SURREY.

Incorporated by Royal Charter. Under the immediate Patronage of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

The ANNUAL GENERAL COURT and SPRING ELECTION of this Charity will be held on THURSDAY, the 30th of April, at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, to receive the Reports, domestic and financial, and to ELECT THIRTY APPLICANTS, viz., FIVE for LIFE and TWENTY-FIVE for the ordinary period of FIVE YEARS, from the list of approved Candidates. The Meeting will commence at Eleven o'clock, the Poll at Twelve, and will close at Two precisely.

Mr. Alderman ABBISS, Treasurer, in the Chair. Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to constitute the Society a Corporation by Royal Charter; and in accordance with its provisions the Board hereby give notice that the regulations and by-laws will be submitted for the assent of the Members at the General Annual Court. The regulations, with a few alterations, are the same as have received the sanction of the Secretary of State, and have been in operation for some years past. The by-laws have been framed in strict harmony with the regulations and the requirements of the charter.

It affords the Board great pleasure to be able again to admit Thirty Cases, and they will at all times extend the benefits of the Charity in proportion to the support afforded them. Contributions are earnestly solicited. Pamphlets illustrating the workings of the charity, and cards to view the asylum, may be had gratuitously, on application at the office.

An Annual Subscriber has one vote for half-a-guinea, and an additional vote for every additional half-guinea; a Life Subscriber has one vote for life for five guineas, and an additional vote for life for every additional five guineas.

JOHN CONOLLY, M.D., D.C.L., Hon. Secretary.

WILLIAM NICHOLAS, Secretary.

Cheques and Post-office orders should be made payable to Mr. William Nicholas.—Office, 20, Foultry, E.C.

CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL,
LEWISHAM.

The HALF-YEARLY MEETING of the Governors of the above Institution, will be held on TUESDAY, April 28th, at the CONGREGATIONAL LIBRARY, BLOMFIELD-STREET, FINSBURY, when THREE CHILDREN will be ELECTED, from a list of Twelve Candidates. To commence at Eleven, and close at Two o'clock precisely.

GEO. ROSE, Secretary.

Surrey-square, Old Kent-road, S.

APPRENTICESHIP SOCIETY.

The next HALF-YEARLY ELECTION will take place at the CONGREGATIONAL LIBRARY, on TUESDAY MORNING, March 31st, 1863. The Poll will commence at Eleven o'clock, and close at One precisely.

I. VALE MUMFERY, } Hon. Secs.
W. WELLS KILPIN, }

HIBBERT TRUST.—TWO SCHOLARSHIPS will be awarded on this foundation after the next Examination, provided that two Candidates are declared by the Examiners to be duly qualified.

The NEXT EXAMINATION will be held at UNIVERSITY HALL, GORDON-SQUARE, LONDON, on MONDAY, TUESDAY, and WEDNESDAY, the 23rd, 24th, and 25th days of November, 1863. The names and addresses of all Candidates, together with satisfactory evidence of age, graduation, and other points, the particulars of which may be obtained on application to the Secretary, must be sent to him, at University Hall, on or before October 1st.

CHARLES J. MURCH, Secretary.

University Hall, Gordon-square,
March 6, 1863.

WEST OF ENGLAND

HYDROPATHIC ESTABLISHMENT,
LIMPLEY STOKE, near BATH.

A Station on the Wilts, Somerset, and Weymouth Railway, Six Miles from Bath, and Three from Bradford, Wilts.

DAVID B. DALZIELL, M.D., Physician.

The locality is famed for its beauty and salubrity. Water pure and abundant.

There are private pleasure-grounds, and a covered space for exercise.

The Treatment is practised in its moderated forms.

Domestic comforts are realised under the superintendence of an Experienced Matron.

Terms: Two Guineas per week. No extra Fees.

For further particulars address the Manager, Mr. T. Preston, Limpley Stoke, near Bath.

CHAS. JUPE and SON, Proprietors.

ORGAN for IMMEDIATE SALE.—It

having been determined to pull down the Chapel in Castle Gate, Nottingham, immediately, the ORGAN is OFFERED for SALE, and as it must be removed in a few days, a low price will be taken.

For full particulars, apply to Mr. J. P. Youngman, County Fire-office, Nottingham; or to Forster and Andrews, Organ Builders, Hull.

ORGAN for SALE, suitable for a small

Chapel. The tone is mellow and powerful, and it is in good condition. It contains five stops. Will be sold cheap.

Apply to Mr. E. Rook, Sittingbourne.

A Well-Established FANCY STATIONERY

BUSINESS, in a most important Neighbourhood, to be DISPOSED OF, in consequence of the ill health of the Proprietor. The Stock is good and Rent moderate.

Apply, between twelve and four, at 10, Glebe-terrace, Lower-road, Islington.

PSALMS and HYMNS.

TO WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF BAPTIST MINISTERS AND MISSIONARIES.

Applicants for grants from the Psalter arising from the Sale of the Psalms and Hymns are requested to write for the usual form of application to the Honorary Secretary, Mr. Treasider, 1, Chatham-place, Walworth-road, S.

NONCONFORMIST PAPERS WANTED.

1844	March 21, November 27.
1848	March 29, June 14.
1851	February 12.
1861	August 14.

Apply to B. Hillyard, Matlock, Derbyshire.

N.B. Many Numbers from 1841 to 1862 for Sale.

THE ADVERTISER wishes to meet with an

ENGAGEMENT as COMPANION to a LADY. Would not object to make herself useful in any capacity not menial. Respectable Reference can be given.

Address, M. J. M., care of Mr. William Orr, 115, Crown-street, Liverpool.

TO DRAPERS.—WANTED, by a YOUNG

LADY, of good business abilities, a SITUATION as COUNTERWOMAN, either in a Shop or Show-room. Age, Twenty-three.

Address, X. Y. Z., Post-office, Poole, Dorset.

TO DRAPERS, TAILORS, OUTFITTERS.

—A Member of a Christian Church desires a RE-ENGAGEMENT.—Cut, Sell, Travel, or Manage a Tailoring Business for a Draper.

With terms, please address to Z., 1, Silver-street, Golden-square, London, W.

TO YOUNG MEN.—A DISSIDENTING

MINISTER, resident in Staffordshire, wishes to RECEIVE into his house a YOUNG MAN, to whom he might be useful in ASSISTING to Prepare him for the MINISTRY, or for any pursuit in which a knowledge of art, or of art manufactures, is required.

Address, A. B. C., 18, Bouverie-street, Fleet-street, London.

WANTED in the GENERAL DRAPERY

TRADE—a pushing, experienced YOUNG MAN as assistant. Good References, and a member of a Congregational church preferred.

Apply, R. Butcher, Fleet-street, Bury, Lancashire.

TO DRAPERS.—A Respectably-connected

YOUTH, age nineteen, Four and a-half years' experience, wants an ENGAGEMENT as JUNIOR HAND in a First-class Establishment in London or the Suburbs. Dis-enters' family preferred.

Address, G. P., Post-office, Walham-green, Fulham, S.W.

IN an Old-established Wholesale and Retail

GROCERY BUSINESS, an APPRENTICE WANTED.

Apply to T. G. Goward, jun., Market Harborough.

TO GROCERS.—WANTED, an ASSISTANT.

Must know the business, be a good Accountant, and thoroughly industrious and energetic.

Apply, 74, Post-office, Northampton.

ROBERT HAYWARD, GROCER and

PROVISION DEALER, Ongar, Essex, has a VACANCY for a respectable, well-educated YOUTH as an APPRENTICE. A Premium required.

THE REV. WILLIAM KIRKUS, LL.B.,

RECEIVES a FEW PUPILS to BOARD and EDUCATE, or to Prepare for University Examinations.

For further particulars, apply to the Rev. W. Kirkus, St. Thomas's-square, Hackney.

FOREST HOUSE SCHOOL, WOODFORD,

N.E. Mr. G. F. H. SYKES, B.A., will be happy to forward his Prospectus to Parents inquiring for a school. They may be assured that their sons will receive careful attention and sound instruction. The course is adapted to the requirements of Mercantile Life, or to the Middle Class and Matriculation Examinations.

SYDENHAM HOUSE SCHOOL,

ROCHFORD, ESSEX.

Principal—Mr. GEO. FOSTER.

Terms, 24l. per annum (inclusive), with Sea-bathing.

PREPARATORY DEPARTMENT at Forest-hill, Sydenham, conducted by Misses E. and F. SOUTHGATE.

PARENTS who require for their SONS a

SOUND, COMMERCIAL EDUCATION, with or without French, Piano, and Latin, are respectfully requested to apply to Mr. GEO. VERNY, of CRANFORD HALL SCHOOL, near Hounslow, Middlesex. The premises are first-class. Food and conveniences of the best description. Terms moderate. References in town and country.

The SCHOOL RESUMED JANUARY 21, 1863.

HOWARD HOUSE SCHOOL, THAME,

near OXFORD.

Conducted by Mr. J. MARSH.

Assisted by English and French Resident Masters.

The special aim of this School is to prepare Youths for Commercial pursuits; and the great success which has attended Mr. Marsh's efforts in Thame for twenty-two years is the best proof of the efficiency of the system pursued. No pains are spared to make every Pupil write a good hand, understand Arithmetic and Mental Arithmetic. The best specimens of Writing and Drawing in the Great Exhibition of 1861 were by Pupils from this school, and attention is requested to the specimens of Book-keeping and Drawing now exhibiting at the Crystal Palace.

References to the Rev. C. Vince, Birmingham; the Rev. I. Dossay, Emswotton; W. Johnson, Esq., Banbury; and Parents in all the midland counties.

Terms low and inclusive. Prospectus, with sketch of Premises, on application.

SCHOOL FOR YOUNG GENTLEMAN.

No. 68, THOMAS-STREET, WEYMOUTH.

PRINCIPAL, the Rev. HARDWICK SMITH, B.A.

This School combines the following advantages:—A fine healthy situation, excellent bathing, every facility for recreation, careful domestic treatment, a high-class education, with moderate and inclusive terms.

The course of instruction embraces: the English, French, and Latin languages, ancient and modern History and Geography, Arithmetic, Book-keeping, Algebra, Geometry, Natural Science, and Drilling.

Pupils are specially prepared for the Civil Service, and the Oxford Local Examinations.

The next Quarter will commence on the 30th of March.

SCHOOL for YOUNG LADIES.

No. 16, THOMAS-STREET, WEYMOUTH.

Sixteen Pupils are received by Miss SMITH (daughter of the late Pastor of Nicholas-street Chapel) who has conducted this school during the last fourteen years, and endeavours to unite the comforts of home with the advantages of regular and a well-considered plan of Tuition.

The French language and Literature are taught by a Protestant French lady.

The best School Books, &c., provided.—Inclusive of thirty-five guineas—no extra charges.



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THE GENERAL LIFE and FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY.
Established 1837.
62, KING WILLIAM STREET, LONDON-BRIDGE, LONDON.
CAPITAL—£1,000,000.

The LADY-DAY FIRE RENEWAL RECEIPTS are now ready, and may be had on application at the Head Office of the Company, or of any of its agents throughout the Country.
THOMAS PRICE, LL.D., Secretary.

THE DISTRESS IN LANCASHIRE.

CENTRAL CONGREGATIONAL RELIEF COMMITTEE.
Rev. Thomas Adkin, Glossop. Rev. Andrew Reed, Preston.
Rev. A. Clark, Stockport. Rev. J. G. Rogers, Ashton.
Rev. W. H. Davidson, Bolton. Mr. W. Armitage, Manchester.
Rev. James Gwyther, Manchester. Mr. R. Kelsall, Rochdale.
Rev. J. B. Lister, Blackburn. C. Foster, E-q., Manchester.
Mr. N. B. Sutcliffe, Ashton.
TREASURER—Mr. Henry Lee, Mosley-street, Manchester.
SECRETARIES.
Rev. R. M. Davies, Oldham. | Rev. William Roaf, Wigan.

Contributions received during the week ending March 23, 1863:

	£	s.	d.
Kingsland Congregational Church, Rev. T. W.	15	0	0
Aveling, two weeks	0	5	0
Uxbridge, a Poor Man, per Rev. R. P. Clarke	0	18	3
Dunmole, Rev. J. Gambridge	0	6	6
High Wycombe, Rev. R. Vernon	11	5	11
Dorking, Congregational Church, offerings	1	11	2
Dit-o, Sunday-school	0	4	5
Dit-o, Mr. Bentall's box	1	18	0
Dit-o, Mr. Gray	0	7	0
Dit-o, Miss Cooke	0	6	0
Dit-o, ditto	1	3	6
Dit-o, Miss Ann Kitchen's box	3	6	9
Aston Tirrold, Rev. H. Hawling	1	10	0
Frome, Rev. E. Flatman	6	0	6
Jers y St John's Congregational Church, Rev. P.	0	13	4
Benet	10	0	0
Dit-o, Miss Veler's School	16	1	8
Birkenhead, A. H. Cowie, Esq., monthly	5	0	0
Birmingham, L. 2-11s Chapel	2	0	0
Buckley, near Mod, proceeds of concert, per Mr. W.	0	0	0
Catherall Jun.	0	0	0
Barnard Castle, Rev. W. Darwent	0	0	0

* All communications to be addressed, Rev. R. M. Davies, Oldham.

LONDON CONGREGATIONAL RELIEF COMMITTEE.

SAMUEL MORLEY, Esq., Chairman and Treasurer.
Josias Alexander, Esq. Henry Mason, Esq.
Mr. Alderman Abbiss. William Nathan, Esq.
Rev. T. Bluney. Rev. Dr. Spence
Travers Buxton, Esq. Rev. George Smith.
Charles Curling, Esq. Henry Spicer, Esq.
John Clapham, Esq. Thomas Spalding, Esq.
William Edwards, Esq. Eusebius Smith, Esq.
William Edgar, Esq. Rev. Dr. Tildan.
Rev. Dr. Haller. John Wilkins, Esq.
Rev. Newman Hall, LL.B. Henry Wright, Esq.

Henry Lee, Esq., and Rev. J. G. Rogers, Representatives of the Manchester Central Congregational Committee.

Mr. T. C. TURBENVILLE, } Hon. Secs.
Mr. T. T. CURWEN, }
Mr. THOMAS SCRUTTON, Jun., }

The object of this Committee is to stimulate the Congregational Churches to a systematic effort and weekly collections on behalf of the distressed Lancashire Operatives, and especially for the suffering members of Congregational Churches. They do not undertake to distribute any funds; they simply forward such moneys as may be entrusted to their care to the destination indicated by the donors.

All communications and remittances to be addressed to Samuel Morley, Esq., Chairman of the London Congregational Relief Committee, 18, Wood-street, London, E.C. Post-offices Orders to be made payable at St. Martin's-le-Grand.

The following amounts have been forwarded by the London Congregational Committee to the Congregational Committee at Manchester:—

	£	s.	d.
Mile-end-road Chapel, per Rev. S. Eastman, collection on Sunday, 8th March	6	13	0
Sunday-school, ditto	2	0	0
Mrs. Woods, per Rev. T. Tines, for redeeming pledges	1	8	0
Park Chapel, Hornsey, boxes at the doors	5	0	10
Young Gentlemen at Mrs. Oates's School, per Rev. John Corbin	1	0	0
Wimbome, Dorsetshire, per Rev. John Heynes, third remittance	5	3	6
Alfriston, Sussex, per Rev. D. Jelu	3	13	6
Bognor, per Rev. B. Grey, ten weeks' collection	5	8	8
Rehearsal of Sacred Music by the Teachers and Scholars of Sunday-school	1	0	0
Burnham Market, Norfolk, per Rev. E. Stallybras, third remittance	1	5	0
Zion Congregational Chapel, Mitcham, Surrey, per Rev. Thos. Orr, collections and boxes at doors	18	5	0
Broadway Chapel, Hammersmith, per Rev. R. Macbeth, second remittance	7	16	0
Congregational Church, Plaistow, per Rev. John Curwen, weekly subscriptions	18	0	0
Whitstable, Kent, per Rev. John Clarke, weekly offerings	5	0	0
	283	2	0

THE BAPTIST UNION and the LANCASHIRE DISTRESS.

The following is the list of Contributions forwarded during the past two weeks to the Baptist Union Fund for the Relief of the Distress in Lancashire:—

Commercial-road Chapel, by Rev. T. Goadby	4	0	0
J. M. J., Lord's-day collection in family	1	0	0
Dover-street, Leicester, by Rev. J. J. Goadby	3	0	0
Editor of "Christian World"	5	0	0
J. Jones, Shrewsbury	0	7	8
Paddington, by Rev. Dr. Burns	5	5	0
Oliver Curtis, Westbury	0	1	3
Chilwell College, by Rev. W. Underwood	3	10	6
Poor Widow, Newtown, by Mr. S. Morgan	0	4	0
Bow Sunday-school, third contribution	0	12	10
Sheppard's Barton, Frome	2	15	8
Mr. Reynolds, Fiddis, for Ministers	1	1	0
Cwmdu and Penrhywgoch	1	14	0

Contributions will be thankfully received at the Mission House, 33, Moorgate-street; and at Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, Tritton, and Co.'s, Lombard-street.

Post-office Orders should be made payable at the General Post-office, to the Rev. James H. Millard (Secretary), and Bankers' Cheques to George Lowe, Esq. (Treasurer).

COLMAN'S GENUINE MUSTARD

TRADE MARK,

On each



THE BULL'S HEAD,

Package.

The Jurors of the International Exhibition, 1862, have—after a careful examination, chemically and microscopically, as well as by the test of flavour—awarded to J. & J. COLMAN

THE ONLY PRIZE MEDAL FOR MUSTARD,

For "Purity and Excellence of Quality."

RETAILED BY ALL GROCERS, &c. WHOLESALE OF THE MANUFACTURERS,

J. & J. COLMAN, 26, Cannon Street, London, E.C.

COALS, 24s., Best Coals.—E. & W. STURGE,
Bridge Wharf, City-road, E.C.
Seconds 23s. | Silkestone 20s.
Other descriptions supplied.

COALS.—Best Sunderland, 23s.; Newcastle
or Hartlepool, 22s.; best Silkestone, 21s.; Clay Cross, 20s.; Coke, per chaldron, 14s.
B. HIBBERDINE, Sussex and Union Wharfs, Regent's-park; Chief Offices: 149 and 246, Tottenham-court-road.

COALS.—Best Coals only.—GEO. J. COCKERELL and Co.'s price is now 24s. per ton cash for the BEST SCREENED COALS, as supplied by them to her Majesty—13, Cornhill, E.C.; Parfitt-wharf, Earl-street, Blackfriars, E.C.; Eaton-wharf, Belgrave-place, Pimlico, S.W.; and Sunderland-wharf, Peckham, S.E.

COALS.—By SCREW STEAMERS, and RAILWAY.—HIGHBURY and KINGSLAND COAL DEPOTS.—No Travellers or Agents employed.—LEA and CO.'S Price for HETTON, HASWELL, and LAMBTON WALLSEND, the best House Coal in the world direct from the Collieries by screw steamers, is 23s. per ton: Hartlepool, 22s.; Tanfield, for Smith's, 18s.; best small, 12s. Inland, by Railway:—Silkestone, 1st class, 21s.; second-class, 20s.; Clay Cross, 21s. and 18s.; Barnsley, 17s.; Hartley, 16s. 6d. Coke, 14s. Net cash. Delivered, screened, to any part of London. All orders direct to LEA and CO.'S, Chief Offices, North London Railway Stations, Highbury, Islington, or Kingsland.

KINAHAN'S LL WHISKY
VERSUS COGNAC BRANDY

This celebrated old IRISH WHISKY rivals the finest French brandy. It is pure, mild, mellow, delicious, and very wholesome. Sold in bottles, 3s. 8d. each, at most of the respectable retail houses in London; by the appointed agents in the principal towns in England; or wholesale at 8, Great Windmill-street, Haymarket, W. Observe the red seal, pink label, and cork, branded "Kinahan's LL Whisky."

EAU-DEVIE.—This Pure PALE BRANDY, 18s. per gallon (introduced by us in 1851), is peculiarly free from acidity, and very superior to recent importations of Cognac in French bottles, 38s. per dozen; or in a case for the country, 39s., railway carriage paid. No agents, and to be obtained only of HENRY BREIT and CO., Old Farnival's Distillery, Holborn, E.C., and 30, Regent-street, S.W. Established 1829. Prices current free on application.

THE FAIRY BOUQUET; THE OXFORD and CAMBRIDGE BOUQUET.—These popular and celebrated Perfumes are not genuine unless they have the names and address of the Original and only makers on each bottle.

METCALFE, BINGLEY, and CO.,
130B and 131, OXFORD-STREET, LONDON, W.
In bottles, 2s., 3s., 6d., 1s., and upwards

METCALFE, BINGLEY, and CO.'S NEW PATENT TOOTH BRUSHES. Penetrating Unbleached Hair Brushes, Improved Flesh Brushes, genuine Sanyria Sponges, and every description of brush and comb and perfume for the toilet. Metcalfe's celebrated Alkaline Tooth Powder, 2s. per box.
130B and 131, OXFORD-STREET, LONDON.

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION, 1862.
The Jurors of Class 2 have awarded a
PRIZE MEDAL
For the superiority of the
GLENFIELD STARCH.

BEAUTIFUL HAIR.—CHURCHER'S TOILET CREAM maintains its superiority for imparting richness, softness, and fragrance to the Hair, as well as being a most economical article. Price 1s., 1s. 6d., and 6s. Batchelor's Instantaneous Columbian Hair Dye is the best extant, 4s. 6d., 7s., and 11s. per packet. Sold by Hairdressers, and at R. HOVENDEEN'S, No. 5, Great Marlborough-street, W., and 57 and 58, Crown-street, Finsbury, E.C. N.B.—Wholesale warehouse for all hairdressers' goods.

HAIR DYE! HAIR DYE! HAIR DYE!
GILLINGWATER'S ATRAPILATORY is the best Hair Dye in England. Grey, red, or rusty hair dyed instantly to a beautiful and natural brown or black without the least injury to hair or skin, and the ill effects of bad dyes remedied. Sold by all Chemists and Perfumers of repute, and by the Proprietor, W. Gillingwater, 96, Goswell-road. Sent free to any railway station in the kingdom, in cases, 3s. 6d., 5s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. each. Beware of Counterfeits.

HAIR DESTROYER for removing superfluous hair on the face, neck, and arms. This great disfigurement of female beauty is effectually removed by this article, which is easily applied, and certain in effect. In Boxes, with directions for use, 3s. 6d. each. Sent free to any railway station, and may be had of Perfumers and Chemists, and of the proprietor, W. Gillingwater, 96, Goswell-road. Beware of Counterfeits.

BALDNESS PREVENTED.—GILLINGWATER'S QUININE POMADE prepared with cantharides restores the hair in all cases of sudden baldness, or bald patches where no visible signs of roots exist, and prevents the hair falling off. In bottles 3s. 6d. and 5s. 6d. each. May be had of all Chemists and Perfumers, and of the proprietor, W. Gillingwater, 96, Goswell-road. Sent free to any railway station. Beware of Counterfeits.

PATENT CORN FLOUR.
In Packets, 8d.; and Tins, 1s.
BROWN AND POLSON'S
TRADE MARK.

To FAMILIES.—Cheap qualities are often charred, extra price, and substituted or recommended for Brown and Polson's. Fraud would be discouraged by all other kinds being returned which are sent instead of the best.

RECIPE FOR INFANTS' FOOD.—To one dessert-spoonful of Brown and Polson, mixed with a wineglassful of cold water and a grain of salt, add half a pint of boiling water; stir over the fire for five minutes; sweeten to taste; if the infant is being brought up by the hand, this food should then be mixed with milk—not otherwise, as the use of the two different milks would be injurious.

HORNIMAN'S PURE TEA, SOLD
in PACKETS by 2,280 AGENTS.

The Chief Commissioner of the Sanitary Report visited the Docks to inspect the PURE TEA imported by HORNIMAN and CO., LONDON, from having on investigation found that many teas in general use are covered by the Chinese with an objectionable powder red colour, which is drank when the tea is made. Horniman's Tea being imported uncoloured, the Chinese cannot pass off brown flavoured sorts; consequently, this Pure Tea is strong, delicious, and wholesome. Price 3s. 8d., 4s., and 4s. 4d. per lb.

MARSHALL'S HUNGARIAN BRANDY.

"Equal to the finest Cognac."—Dr. Hamall and Professor Way.
"Unites purity, softness, and aroma."—Globe.
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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

EASTER WEEK AND ENGLISH GENTLEMEN.

THE time is close at hand when in about half the parishes of the kingdom they who arrogate to themselves the title of "the gentlemen of England" will be called upon, in the name of Christ's holy and beneficent Gospel, to discharge their annual obligation towards the pure and apostolic Church of England, which consists in supporting their weaker neighbours, and forcing them to pay their quota towards the repair of edifice in which they do not worship, and the comfort of worshippers with whom they decline to unite. We do not envy them the feelings with which they contemplate that arduous and self-sacrificing duty. Arduous and self-sacrificing we have no doubt it is to not a few of them, even though they may be reconciled to it, in some degree, by the consciousness, so sweet to human nature, of bringing to bear upon others a paramount authority. Left to themselves, the majority of them, we are willing to believe, would, for the sake of retaining their self-respect, gladly forego the pleasure of asserting the supremacy of their ecclesiastical system. To domineer over those who may chance to fall under their power—to domineer gratuitously, unnecessarily, ostentatiously—to domineer in a matter of pecuniary arrangement in which they are themselves to be the winners of the paltry stakes contended for, is not the natural propensity, nor the cherished habit, of English gentlemen. Their taste would not impel them to it. Their conscience, unless perverted by sophistry, would much rather satisfy itself by bearing the small extra expense of leaving their neighbours to do what they please in matters pertaining to the outward means of religion. There are exceptions to the rule, no doubt. There are coarse-minded men of wealth and station to whose disposition it is a treat rather than otherwise to play the bully when they can do it safely—but whatever else they may be, they are not gentlemen—nor is it to them that our present remarks are intended to apply.

Victims as we are of the social injustice inflicted upon us by the Church-rate system, we regard our lot as a far preferable one to that of the thousands who are dragged up to the poll to vote for an impost which in their unbiased judgment they know to be unnecessary, and believe to be out of keeping with the spirit of their religious faith. We do not hold these men blameless—far from it—but we pity more than we blame them. They cannot well help themselves—they have not the moral courage to do it. They find themselves beset by all those social influences which a parish clergyman is usually able to wield—the fear of seeming to condemn friends with whom they are on terms of intimacy—the dislike of standing aloof from their own set—the dread of incurring the reproach of amiable but illogical women—mothers, wives, daughters, rela-

tives, acquaintances—for feminine passion and devotion is the clergyman's main resource)—and, finally, the strong indisposition to wound the minister of the parish in his tenderest part, and in the presence of his parishioners. All these feelings are appealed to, and generally, it may well be supposed, not in vain. So, at the appointed time, these high-spirited gentlemen, having had all elasticity of will duly drenched out of them by the aforementioned influences, suffer themselves to be drifted into a position which all the high qualities of their nature view with repugnance. They feel that they are being used as the tools of priestly assumption for a purpose which in their hearts they cannot approve. They try, of course, to swallow the arguments meant to convince them that they are performing a Christian duty—arguments which neither their reason nor their religion can afterwards digest—but, having voted, they go home and do their best to forget what they have done. It is to this trying, irksome, humiliating duty that thousands of English gentlemen will be summoned during the Easter week just at hand—and, we say, we pity them their degradation from the bottom of our souls.

We pity them, because in this matter they are slaves. They dare not assert their own independence. They are afraid to act upon the dictates of their individual common-sense. They are like strong men in a crowd, who lose possession of themselves, and are swayed hither and thither in utter helplessness, with the common herd with which they are inextricably entangled. And, like such men, too, their own individual qualities sink down to the low level of the average of a Church-rate party. Why, it must take some of them all the rest of the year to purify their minds from the vulgar baseness with which they have been associated and contaminated—and, whether they recollect the feelings of others which they have helped to gratify, or those which they have stooped to outrage, they must be sensible for a long while afterwards of a terrible loss of self-respect. We have observed them when they have come into the vestry to record their plurality of votes—and when, to cover their confusion, they assume a blustering air quite foreign to their usual manner, or, unable to conceal their disgust, they exhibit a hang-dog look, we have sometimes asked ourselves what on earth these gentlemen can be about that they allow themselves to be thus transformed into the image of bondsmen. We are aware that many of them have been hoping and hoping that every year's unwelcome necessity would be the last—and if we could find it in our hearts to nourish revenge against them for the wrong they have helped to inflict on us, we could almost rejoice to assure them that there is no present likelihood of their escaping the annual nuisance, and that, for some time to come, they will still have to crawl through the dirt at the bidding of their parish priest. But we have no such vindictive feeling—on the contrary, we sincerely grieve that their religious sentiment, which might be educated to noble ends, puts them under the fancied necessity of doing acts which their sympathies as English gentlemen cannot but hold in repugnance.

When we were at school—public opinion has improved in such matters since then—we were usually at a loss which boy to compassionate most deeply, the one who received the flogging with the birch, or the one who was compelled to administer it. The gentlemen of England are bidden by the clergy to wield the rod against Dissenters, and they do it. They must do it, or lose caste. For, whether they know it or not, they are immediately priest-ridden—the clergy, through the female members of their flocks, overpowering the robust sense of the laymen. The ladies, we do not question, receive the clerical exposition of law and Gospel with that uncritical and devout submission which is the characteristic of their sex, and they are easily persuaded that "woman's mission" begins at home, and thence radiates through the social circle. They become, there-

fore, powerful conductors of priestly notions into the less accessible consciences of cultivated men; and hence comes one of the peculiar features of the age—a growing deference to the Church without a corresponding growth of godliness. Never, perhaps, were the gentry of this country, at least since the Reformation, more amenable to clerical dictation; and yet, we doubt, whether there have been many periods in which the religious sentiment of the class has been of a sicker, or less manly order. They have surrendered their individuality—they think, or, at least, they profess, at the word of command. They have been drilled into ecclesiastical respectability—but, like soldiers, whilst they have got rid of some external deformities, they have also lost much of their independence and self-reliance of spirit.

Easter-week is at hand, and again, in thousands of parishes, the gentlemen of England will be hauled up to the vestry, and made to fleece their Dissenting neighbours that they may eke out the sum required to defray the expense of their own religious worship. We wish them joy of their self-degrading duty. Let them put on a complacent air! Let them fortify themselves with reasons which, for a time at least, will flatter their public spirit! Let them vote in such a manner as will force a pecuniary homage to their Church from people who do not belong to it! And then, cursing their hard fate, let them return home, and chew the cud of the reflection, throughout the remainder of the year, that priestly influence is too much for their gentlemanly spirit, and that they have been driven to do an act which in their souls they despise! And Dissenters will pity them that they are no longer their own masters, and that they have fallen from their high estate under the humiliating government of cassock and bands.

ECCLESIASTICAL NOTES.

WE have read many defences of the practice of subscription in the Church of England, from Dr. Pusey's down to Dean Goode's, and we fancied that we had read nearly all that was to be said in its defence. We could not have imagined that, ingenious as the human intellect can be, especially when it is sharpened by considerations of position, place, emoluments, and honours, that it would be possible to invent a new theory to reconcile all the difficulties attending the conscientious subscription, in their plain and grammatical sense, of the same Articles by men who professedly believe in contradictory systems and opposing doctrines. The torture with which one reads such explanations can be but a faint sign of the torture with which they must have been written. How painfully the brains of the writers must have been screwed and twisted you can feel from the screws and twists which you are compelled to give to your own as you wonderingly follow the mazes of their arguments. Then the sore pity with which you close a Subscription pamphlet, and wish, for the writer's sake, that he had only been wise enough not to say anything about the matter!

With such a feeling we have just laid down a sermon on the "Liberty of Private Judgment within the Church of England," preached before the University of Oxford, on February 1st, by the Rev. Dr. Hawkins, Provost of Oriel College and Canon of Rochester. Dr. Hawkins enjoys, we believe, a good reputation in Oxford as a pious, well-meaning man, who would be glad to do much more for the Church than he has the ability to do. He has, before now, dealt with subjects as wide as the present one—as in a rather honest and straightforward discourse on "Spiritual Destitution." We are quite sure that his intentions are always right, and he has approached his present subject with, no doubt, the very best motives. Dwelling on the fact, which every bishop's charge now echoes in louder and still louder tones, that the number of clergymen is decreasing, he has apparently sought about for a new argument to persuade Oxford

graduates to take to the Church. He seems to consider, and no doubt correctly—for his position gives him the best means of knowledge—that the main reason why the graduates will not take orders is owing to a supposed want of freedom within the Church, and to the rigid restrictions she is supposed to lay upon the liberty of private judgment; and he undertakes to show that these restrictions are "greatly exaggerated." He thereupon refers to the fact that a clergyman may pursue his philological studies with perfect freedom, and that he may become acquainted with all the science of manuscripts. Then we come to the interpretation of Scripture, on which subject the Provost of Oriel remarks that "people speak carelessly as if the Church professed to determine the interpretation of Scripture." Well, does it not? Not a bit, answer the Provost, for, "in point of fact, a certain interpretation of Scripture generally is implied in our Creeds and Articles, but not that of particular texts!" We should have thought this "a determination of the interpretation of Scripture," especially as the Provost goes on to remark in discussing the necessity of subscription, that it is necessary that ministers "should distinctly profess their assent to all essential doctrine, and their renunciation of condemned error." But how can they do that without an "interpretation" of the Scripture? This is a small twist, however, compared with the wrench which Dr. Hawkins gives the brain in stating the main position of his sermon. This is, that a person in subscribing "to all and every Article" does not subscribe to all and every thing contained in the Articles! His words are as follows:—"No Christian minister subscribes to all and everything, metaphysical or other, contained in the Articles, but only to 'all and every the Articles in the Book of Articles of Religion,' which is a very different form of expression." This is wrench the first. Wrench the second comes in a note to this passage. Every reader knows that the usual form of subscription to the Articles runs as follows:—"I do willingly and from my heart subscribe to the Thirty-nine Articles of Religion of the United Church of England and Ireland, and to the Three Articles of the 36th Canon, and to all things that are contained in them." In what? Just ask yourself, before we give you Dr. Hawkins's answer. "This last clause," says our apologist, "does not refer to the Thirty-nine Articles, but to the three Articles of the 36th Canon," which one having given the graduates, Dr. Hawkins solemnly informs them that they are "NOT TO LOOK OUT FOR UNNATURAL SENSES BY WHICH THE TRUE MEANING OF WORDS MAY BE EVADED." There you have the latest theory of subscription. Dr. Hawkins has lived many years before he has found it. It scarcely requires remark,—a plain statement of it being quite sufficient for most English readers,—but we should like to have heard the criticism of the graduates upon it as they left chapel on the morning of February 1st. If anything was needed to induce them to abandon all intention of taking orders in the Church, Dr. Hawkins' theory must have been more than sufficient for the purpose. We hope the Provost sees what it involves, and that if ever one of his servants should steal his chest of plate he will not indict him for stealing the chest and all things contained therein, for plainly, in stealing a chest it does not follow, according to Dr. Hawkins, that the "things contained" in it are also stolen.

A remarkable and interesting discussion took place in Congregation, at Oxford, on Thursday. The occasion was the promulgation of a new theological statute for the University. Theology has not thriven on the banks of the Isis, and it is therefore proposed to confiscate (we quote Professor Rawlinson's words) certain benefactions for the purpose of founding three scholarships. This measure was supported by the Master of Pembroke, the Provost of Oriel, Professor Heartley, Professor Stanley, the Master of Balliol, Professor Pusey, the Regius Professor of Divinity, and the Vice-Chancellor. We take especial note of these names, as we may have to look to these gentlemen to support the position of the Liberation Society, that public funds may, for the sake of public interests, be diverted from their original purpose, without that diversion being capable of the designation of "robbery and spoliation."

This meeting was equally remarkable for a general protest against, not exactly the use of Bishops, but against Episcopal action and interference. Some expressions carry us back to the days of the Long Parliament. Thus, Mr. Woolcombe, of Balliol, said "he must express an earnest hope that the bishops would let us alone"; Professor Stanley "hoped the bishops would not attempt to help the scheme by co-operation"; the Master of Balliol "believed the direct patronage of the Bishops had ruined the Cambridge examination," and the Regius Professor of Divinity "deprecated any reliance on the Bishops." We

assure the reader that we are not quoting from the proceedings of an Anti-State-Church Conference, but from the reports in the *English Churchman* and in the *Guardian* of March 19th, of a meeting of the Oxford University. Our own impression is that, after all, the Bishops have the best words said for them by Dissenters.

We have quoted a paragraph from the *Guardian* on the conflicting Church patronage of the Premier and the Lord Chancellor. The article from which the extract is taken is an elaborate charge against the present Administration of Church patronage. We are told in it that those officers absolutely neglect the "higher interests" of the benefices; only the Chancellor's livings are "worse than the Prime Minister's." A sneer at the Villiers case is wedged in, and we are informed that "a son-in-law of Lord Russell would of course be fit for any living, however valuable," and the whole concludes with a sharp groan over the condition of the clergy:—

What the Church of England really wants, quite as much as an increase of her endowments, is some method of rewarding the diligent and earnest among her ministers with appropriate preferment. At present a man may work forty years with energy and success in her most responsible posts, and find no fitting acknowledgment of his deserts; he may exhaust his strength and resources in her service, and meet with no retirement to a less laborious sphere of duty in his old age. These things ought not so to be; they are the greatest of all hindrances to the increase of efficient and learned candidates for the ministry. We wish it were possible to entertain the hope that the proposal for altering the present system of Crown patronage might result in some plan which would offer a legitimate attraction to real ability among the clergy, and to some extent supply an answer to what is now perhaps the most serious reproach in the mouths of enemies to the Church.

We remarked a fortnight ago on the Bishop of Oxford's declaration that the Archbishop had suspended the observance of Lent for the day of the Prince of Wales's marriage. An ugly statement has since been made by a correspondent of the *Church Review*, who writes:—"It will be a satisfaction to all those Churchmen who faithfully maintained their principles to know that the Primate says, in a letter now before me, 'I have never claimed to myself the power of dispensing with the general observance of Lent on the 10th of March.'" The editor of the paper states that the Archbishop, in reply to inquiries from some of the clergy of his province, has declared, "that not only did he grant no dispensation for setting aside the Lenten fast on the occasion of the royal marriage, but that he has no power whatever to do so. It rests with the Bishop of Oxford, therefore, to justify the communication to the contrary which was made to his archdeacons." The Bishop, however, is silent. We do not, for a moment, suppose that he invented the Archbishop's "dispensation," but, but—the fact is, the less said about it the better.

We report at some length the proceedings of the *soirée* of the Liberation Society at Camberwell. This is the first of a series of similar meetings which it is intended to hold in different parts of the metropolis. There is a general impression that it is impossible to move London for any public object, and to a great extent this impression is a correct one. We remember that Dr. Newman, in his lectures on Catholicism in England, pointedly adverts to this fact, and suggests that it is better not to attempt any direct attack on the lethargy or indifference of the great city. The best way, he remarks, to move London is to move the large towns. This suggestion is worth noting, but we believe it will be found to be very possible to move the churches of London. Every church in the Camberwell district was represented at last Wednesday's meeting, and we have no doubt that every church in the Islington district will be represented next Tuesday. Both for moral and pecuniary power, it is desirable that the Liberation Society should become thoroughly known to the members of all the metropolitan congregations, and that it should be able, at any moment, to put its finger on persons in every church who are capable of bringing the power of the church to bear in support of the objects of the society.

SOIREE OF THE LIBERATION SOCIETY AT CAMBERWELL.

A numerous and respectable company assembled at Camberwell Hall last Wednesday evening, in connexion with the Liberation Society; the meeting being the first of a series intended to be held in the metropolis. Members of nearly all the Dissenting congregations in the neighbourhood were present, and among others who attended were Mr. Charles Curling, J.P., who acted as chairman, the Rev. J. Pillans, Rev. R. W. Betts, Rev. H. Bromley, Rev. B. Kent, of Norwood, Rev. W. K. Rowe, Rev. S. A. Davies, Mr. Wm. Edwards, Mr. Miall, and Mr. Carvell Williams.

After the company had taken tea, the Rev. J. Pillans offered prayer, and

The CHAIRMAN opened the business of the meeting. He said that the act of devotion in which they had just engaged gave to these proceedings that tone and character which in his opinion properly belonged to them, and he hoped that in the series of meetings which he understood were about to be held in the suburban districts of the metropolis the same course would be pursued. He was glad to have that opportunity of publicly identifying himself with the Liberation Society in a locality where he was, perhaps, not altogether unknown. (Cheers.) He wished that all the ministers of Dissenting churches would come forward and join the society—nay, it would not be inconsistent for even Churchmen themselves to do so. There was nothing in the principles of the society to prevent their doing so. (Hear, hear.) He was no anti-Church Dissenter; but he gloried in being an anti-State-Church Dissenter. At the same time he disavowed everything like hostility to the Church of England, and he was sure the Liberation Society would do the same. He was satisfied that the fact of belonging to that society did not prevent any one loving his brother or his neighbour. They believed that for the State to have any control in matters of religion was an unmixed evil to the Church, and, therefore, so far from wishing to do the Church any harm, they hoped to do it good, by freeing it from the fetters of State control. (Hear, hear.) He hoped that, so far as Church-rates were concerned, the watchword of the society would always be, "Total and unconditional abolition." (Cheers.)

The Rev. J. PILLANS spoke to the following sentiment:—"Voluntarism, may the time be hastened when Christianity will be supported exclusively by Christian means instead of the coercive machinery of secular governments." The rev. gentleman said that naturally he was of a quiet and peaceable disposition, yet from conviction and conscience he was compelled to take part in the struggle against the connexion of Church and State, and sympathise with the society. Among the difficulties the friends of the society had to encounter, was that involved in the question, that it did not much matter how the money was raised to support the preaching of the Gospel, provided that the funds were forthcoming. He, however, considered the "how" a matter of the greatest importance, as affecting the influence the preaching had. The Creator might have provided the human race with food and raiment, without men and women making any exertion to obtain them, but the very exercise rendered necessary in getting these things was of the greatest benefit to mankind. If this principle was true concerning physical things, it applied with more force and energy to the support of the Christian life. They had just been giving to a Princess a warm and hearty reception, and this country was proud of it, because one of its greatest glories was that it came voluntarily from a free people. The presence of the volunteers in the park was said to be a peculiar glory, because, where in most other countries such an array could only have been made by force, here it was a voluntary exhibition by a free and happy people. The voluntary principle was also admirably illustrated by the movement in aid of the distress in Lancashire. This calamity could only be met in two ways, either by taxation, or the coercive principle, or by free donations, or the voluntary one. This question was decided by both Churchmen and Dissenters, and they all said it must be by the voluntary offerings of the country. If Government had given the aid, it was felt that it would degrade the recipients, while if the other plan was adopted it would show the sympathy and love that existed in the hearts of their fellow-countrymen. (Hear, hear.) If this voluntary principle applied to the lower kinds of life, was not it applicable in a greater degree to Christianity, the higher kind of life? No doubt there was a great mixture of motives, as there ever would be when any large number of people united in a work of that kind; but for all that the principle was a sound one, and it was the development which it received in this country that made England so great among the nations. (Cheers.) He had therefore no sympathy at all with those who held that it did not matter how Christianity was supported, provided it was supported. It might be said, no doubt, that whether the Church was supported by the State or not, earnest religious people would find means of expressing their willingness; but still it remained true that the natural means of doing so was taken from them by the alliance of the Church with the State. A Church which allowed those natural means to be taken from it lost a great power of calling out and proving its spiritual life. If Christianity was to obtain full development and become the strong thing it ought to be, it must have scope for exercise. He therefore hoped that the time would speedily arrive when it would be supported exclusively by Christian means instead of the coercive machinery of secular Government. (Applause.)

The Rev. R. W. BETTS, of Hanover Chapel, Peckham, was the next speaker, the sentiment allotted to him being:—"Religious equality—may it come to be recognised as one of the rights of citizenship, and as essential to social and peace and Christian union." He was pleased to attend a meeting of the Liberation Society in Camberwell under such auspicious circumstances. He remembered some four or five years ago being present at a meeting under the presidency of that honoured man, that venerated champion of Nonconformity, the Rev. John Burnet. (Cheers.) The attendance, however, was small, for the time had not then come for the proper development of the liberation prin-

ciple in that neighbourhood. Camberwell was somewhat slow and Conservative, but happily the tone of feeling in regard to the union of Church and State was changing. The Bicentenary movement and the recent Church-rate contest in the parish had drawn attention to the question. He often felt surprised at the misconception which a great many very excellent and estimable men in that locality had in regard to the views and aims of the Liberation Society. The society had been used as a sort of "old bogie" to frighten people with, and just as some children continued to retain some of their old superstitious feeling about "old bogies," and felt uncomfortable alone in the dark, long after their parents had convinced them that there was no such personage in existence, so there were some persons who were horrified with the Liberation Society long after they ought to know better. (Hear, hear.) By many churchpeople in the parish it was supposed to have been at the bottom of the strong—his wished it had been successful—opposition to the last Camberwell Church-rate. Well, the secretary of the society was present, full of honours which he had won, but he was sure he would make no pretensions to that honour. If there had been a local organisation during the recent contest, he believed that the numbers at the close of the poll would have had a different appearance. (Hear, hear.) They should then have had a majority of votes as they had of voters, and not have out-manoeuvred as they were by the Local Church-Defence Association, by means of old ladies from Dalwich with half-a-dozen votes in their pockets, who were brought to the poll to save the Church from being destroyed by the terrible Dissenters. (Laughter and cheers.) All honour to the old ladies, he said, for coming, and giving their votes as their godfathers and godmothers promised that they should do. (Renewed laughter.) No, the Liberation Society had not the honour of being the prime mover in the opposition to the Church-rate, for which indeed some present in that room had been summoned, and for which some were now threatened with distress warrants. (Shame.) He was present in May last at a meeting of the Camberwell Church-Defence Society, but as no person opposed to the society was allowed to speak, the extraordinary statements of one of the speakers, the Rev. Joseph Bardsley, were allowed to pass uncontradicted. Some strange things also fell from the lips of some of the local clergy. One gentleman, the minister of a church nearer Peckham than Camberwell, spoke of his habit of meeting Dissenting ministers on platforms, and another, while attributing the existence of slavery in the Southern States of America to the want of a State Church—(great laughter)—deploring that he could no longer co-operate with Dissenters in outward uniformity. Surely the reference to the habit of meeting Dissenting ministers on platforms must have been made with regard to some place beyond range of Camberwell, for he (Mr. Betts) had been at Bible meetings, Ragged-school meetings, London City Mission meetings, and other meetings of that class at various times during his residence of nearly ten years in that locality, but he had never met a single clergyman—say a poor stray curate—on any platform, however broad and catholic it might be. (Hear, hear.) The clergyman who could no longer co-operate with Dissenters in outward uniformity was the same who four or five years ago promised to attend a ragged-school meeting, but who, when the bill was sent him with the name of a Dissenting minister standing next his own, declined to come. (Hear, hear.) It was moonshine to attribute the want of co-operation to the Bicentenary movement. There might be less of pretended co-operation, but it was contrary to the ecclesiastical statutes of the Established Church to recognise a non-episcopally ordained person as a minister of Christ. The Dissenting minister, therefore, who declined to stand at a humble distance and not submit to be patronised or elbowed out of the houses of members of his congregation, because a clerical brother claimed them as his parishioners—a Dissenting minister who would not keep his schools in a second-rate position, nor withdraw his tract distributors from certain ecclesiastical boundaries—who respectfully, but formally, said to his clerical brother, "You are a minister of Christ, so am I"—that Dissenting minister was immediately put down in the private memorandum book of the "duly authorised minister" as one with whom co-operation was impossible. (Hear, hear.) He had no hesitation in saying that the great barrier to Christian union and co-operation was the State-Church principle. (Applause.)

The Rev. BENJAMIN KENT spoke to the third sentiment—"Self-support and self-government; may the members of the Established Churches prefer purity to political power, and freedom of action to the pecuniary favours of the State." He said that Dean Alford, in one of his works, referred to the fact that in the Church services there was no reading from the Book of Revelation; and Mr. Kent said that, however much a Church clergyman might consider it his duty to read a portion of that book to his flock, he was prevented by law from doing so, while the poorest Nonconformist minister had the power of consulting his own conscience on such a matter. He asked whether it was not a badge of intolerable servitude that ministers of the Church of England could not sit in convocation over the affairs of their own Church after the Minister of the day gave the sign to the Archbishop that the convocation must be dismissed. (Hear, hear.) Was it not monstrous that in such an important matter as the appointment of a bishop the ministers of the Established Church should not be allowed to choose for themselves? And was it not a horrible profana-

tion that the dean and chapter of a diocese should ask the assistance of the Holy Spirit in directing them to elect a proper person for their bishop, at the same time that they held in their hands the name of the person appointed by Government? They had got rid of the old borough-mongering principle, that a Minister had the right to send down a nominee to represent the constituency in Parliament, and surely the people should have a similar right in appointing the person to minister to them in spiritual things. He concluded by stating that Mr. Gladstone had said that, looking back on former years, he did not think that Dissenters had injured the Church of England, and looking forward, he did not think they would. In that sentiment he (Mr. Kent) cordially concurred, or else he would not belong to the Liberation Society.

Mr. E. MIALl addressed the meeting on the following sentiment:—"The Liberation Society—may the results of its past operations, and the greatness of its present opportunities, stimulate its friends to renewed and earnest effort." He supposed that he need not shrink from avowing that he was a member of the Liberation Society, and that he had been from its commencement. (Laughter and cheers.) One of the noblest men that ever preached the Gospel—John Bunnet—who had now quitted earth for heaven, never regretted having joined the society, and under the shield and countenance of such a name he would be proud to acknowledge his own adhesion to its ranks in any part of the kingdom. (Cheers.) They were abused because they were misunderstood, and they were misunderstood because some people did not wish to understand them—who would not inquire into their principles and aims because they were uneasy lest the results should come about which they were seeking to attain. It might appear uncharitable to make that observation, but how otherwise could they account for certain facts of every-day occurrence? Here, for instance, was a man professing to be a member of the Church of Christ, aiming to save souls, and regarding souls as the most important and precious objects that could be cared for by human sympathy—one into whose spirit had been breathed the large, benevolent, and catholic spirit of the Christian faith. Such a person saw others working all Christian works, and yet he turned his back upon them as though they did not belong to the Church of Christ, simply because they paid for their own religion. Hereby began to be ashamed of some of his countrymen—ashamed of their want of manliness of spirit—who dared not to stand against the social disrespect they would incur by doing right and by acting according to their conscientious convictions, who, because they could not bear to be speared at by those among whom they lived, cast all manner of scorn and contempt on the Liberation Society and other associations of a liberal tendency. The State paid for their religion and patronised it, and they were base enough to say that they took the arrangement on account of the poor. He could not understand this. (Hear, hear.) He could understand it in some people, but not in Englishmen. He did not blame the clergy of the Established Church, but men of influence, standing, and name, among the laity, who were content to walk behind the clergy in doing wrong; who cut themselves off from communion with men whose spirit they secretly admired, and then poured contempt on the Liberation Society for trying to carry out the dictates of their consciences. The society was now nearly twenty years old, and some people were asking what it had accomplished. They had done what they could, and that was something. (Hear, hear.) A precious speaker (Mr. Pillans) had given a beautiful exposition of the value of doing what we could. It was God's plan not to put the chief benefit of things in the end, but in the means by which we arrived at the end. Now suppose the Liberation Society had done nothing more than give expression to their own views, had spoken the truth in regard to what they believed to be the Master's will, and had banded themselves together to carry out an object, not for their own advantage, but for the advantage of the Church—that would be something. (Hear, hear.) He would not run over the list of measures they had accomplished in Parliament, nor enlarge upon the change of tone which had taken place in the public press in reference to questions affecting religious liberty. When Mr. Gladstone talked of their efforts not putting the Church in the slightest danger they knew what he meant. If they were doing nothing their opponents would say nothing about them, be assured. But from all parts of the country, in all their varied assemblies, by every means and through every instrumentality by which clergymen, archdeacons, and bishops could speak, they were all of them casting their maledictions upon the Liberation Society. Would they do that upon a faint bantling that was going out of the world without accomplishing any result? Not at all. What then were they doing? Why, they were showing a light—the light of truth—on the evils of a State Church. Whilst the advocates of that Church were quarrelling amongst themselves, they, on the other hand, were simply letting in upon them the light of that principle which they professed to have derived from the Scriptures of salvation. It was on that account that they were everywhere spoken against. And yet he believed that there had not been in this country an organisation which had been conducted in a more pacific spirit. He should like to have asked that clergyman who spoke of the Liberation Society as "infernal" what he knew about it, or whether that was a parrot-cry which had been raised in order to excite a panic amongst Church-people, and prevent the light of truth penetrating amongst them? (Hear, hear.) No doubt this would

be called exceedingly uncharitable, but it was true. (Hear, hear.) If Protestant Dissenters had taken their stand upon the principle of religious equality, if they had preached their principles as they preached the Gospel (and it was as much their duty to do the one as the other) there would not have been at the present day that awful scepticism abroad as to the reality of the religion of those who professed the name of Christ which characterised the present age. Why, if there was any truth in their principles they ought to press them upon men's attention, not in anger, indignation, or enmity, but in love, in zeal, and in fidelity to the great Master. The Dissenting bodies of England had not, truly speaking, discharged their duty in that respect. They were not bearing the testimony they ought to bear against the sin of their brethren. The Liberation Society had been constituted in order to perform this duty; and he for one honoured it, and the course which it had taken. He did not say that that course had been free from all mistakes, but he did contend that it would bear comparison with any other existing organisation for the purity of the motives of those who conducted its affairs, and for the earnestness and simplicity of their desire to please their Master Christ Jesus. He hoped that those who were present would commend the society to their friends. Above all, let nobody deem it necessary to apologise for being thought to be connected with it. Their friends who took an opposite view of the relations of Church and State were not in the habit of apologising much, though they formed Church-Defence Associations and voted for Church-rates in order to pay the expenses of their own worship out of the pockets of other people. He (Mr. Miall) was one of the most pacific men that ever lived—"Hear, hear, and a laugh"—it would be the greatest happiness to him if he could go through life without hurting the feelings of any single individual, and at the same time do the duty for which God had placed him in the world. But God had endowed men with feelings which they ought to exercise for the protection of truth and the dispersion of error. Why should they walk in the light of other men's consciences, or be thankful to them because they enjoyed the light of the sun without their interference? (Hear, hear.) He claimed to have a position given to him by his Maker and by Providence equal in its right to that of any other subject of her Majesty; and when men came and put their hands into his pockets and took money therefrom, for the payment of their worship, and then expressed the utmost contempt for him, as though he were not fit for their society, he always felt inclined to say:—"Jesus I know, and Paul I know, but who are ye?" (Hear, hear.) Let all the true friends of the Liberation Society present their principles to others without fear, but in love. There was no reason for hurting the feelings of a single individual where they could avoid doing so and yet do their duty. But they were all placed there to do something. They were placed as witnesses for the truth. Everyone was bound to witness for the truth that he knew and believed, and he was sorry to say that Protestant Dissenters had a great deal more truth in them than they had fully borne witness to. Let that state of things come to an end, and when it did there would no longer be any necessity for the further exertions of the Liberation Society. (Cheers.)

Mr. CARVELL WILLIAMS, in briefly supporting the sentiment, contrasted the state of feeling which prevailed at the promotion of the Liberation Society, when many Dissenters were deterred from joining it from a belief that the separation of Church and State was an impossibility, with the fact that what had already been effected in that direction had alarmed the supporters of Church Establishments into the formation of hundreds of local organisations to prevent the further success of this society. He also expressed the opinion that for all the labour and money expended in carrying on the society's work an ample reward had been received, both in the measures which had been obtained from Parliament, and in the tendency of public opinion towards the adoption of the principle of religious equality. (Hear, hear.) Even now, when it was not possible to pass measures through Parliament, the friends of voluntarism were the only political party in the country who were united, thoroughly in earnest, and well organised for action. Let it not, however, be supposed that the society did not require an accession of strength to enable it to carry on its enterprise successfully in the new circumstances in which it was now placed. (Hear.) If it was to seize the golden opportunities now presenting themselves, greater support, moral as well as pecuniary, must be afforded, and there must be greater self-sacrifice and willingness to bear obloquy, as well as to render active personal service. He appealed especially to the younger men in the Nonconformist ranks to prepare themselves intelligently to take part in a conflict which could not possibly be avoided, and the end of which would be witnessed by them, though the full realisation of their wishes might not be granted to their fathers. (Cheers.)

Mr. GEORGE FREEMAN moved, and the Rev. W. K. ROWE seconded, the appointment of a local committee of the society for the district of Camberwell and Peckham.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr. W. EDWARDS moved a vote of thanks to the chairman. The motion was seconded and carried by acclamation, after which the proceedings were brought to a close.

The soirée to be held at Islington is, we observe, to take place next Tuesday evening, at Myddelton Hall. Remembering the strength of Nonconformity

graduates to take to the Church. He seems to consider, and no doubt correctly—for his position gives him the best means of knowledge—that the main reason why the graduates will not take orders is owing to a supposed want of freedom within the Church, and to the rigid restrictions she is supposed to lay upon the liberty of private judgment; and he undertakes to show that these restrictions are "greatly exaggerated." He thereupon refers to the fact that a clergyman may pursue his philological studies with perfect freedom, and that he may become acquainted with all the science of manuscripts. Then we come to the interpretation of Scripture, on which subject the Provost of Oriel remarks that "people speak carelessly as if the Church professed to determine the interpretation of Scripture." Well, does it not? Not a bit, answer the Provost, for, "in point of fact, a certain interpretation of Scripture generally is implied in our Creeds and Articles, but not that of particular texts!" We should have thought this "a determination of the interpretation of Scripture," especially as the Provost goes on to remark in discussing the necessity of subscription, that it is necessary that ministers "should distinctly profess their assent to all essential doctrine, and their renunciation of condemned error." But how can they do that without an "interpretation" of the Scripture? This is a small twist, however, compared with the wrench which Dr. Hawkins gives the brain in stating the main position of his sermon. This is, that a person in subscribing "to all and every Article" does not subscribe to all and every thing contained in the Articles! His words are as follows:—"No Christian minister subscribes to all and everything, metaphysical or other, contained in the Articles, but only to 'all and every the Articles in the Book of Articles of Religion,' which is a very different form of expression." This is wrench the first. Wrench the second comes in a note to this passage. Every reader knows that the usual form of subscription to the Articles runs as follows:—"I do willingly and from my heart subscribe to the Thirty-nine Articles of Religion of the United Church of England and Ireland, and to the Three Articles of the 36th Canon, and to all things that are contained in them." In what? Just ask yourself, before we give you Dr. Hawkins's answer. "This last clause," says our apologist, "does not refer to the Thirty-nine Articles, but to the three Articles of the 36th Canon," which cue having given the graduates, Dr. Hawkins solemnly informs them that they are "NOT TO LOOK OUT FOR UNNATURAL SENSES BY WHICH THE TRUE MEANING OF WORDS MAY BE EVADED." There you have the latest theory of subscription. Dr. Hawkins has lived many years before he has found it. It scarcely requires remark,—a plain statement of it being quite sufficient for most English readers,—but we should like to have heard the criticism of the graduates upon it as they left chapel on the morning of February 1st. If anything was needed to induce them to abandon all intention of taking orders in the Church, Dr. Hawkins' theory must have been more than sufficient for the purpose. We hope the Provost sees what it involves, and that if ever one of his servants should steal his chest of plate he will not indict him for stealing the chest and all things contained therein, for plainly, in stealing a chest it does not follow, according to Dr. Hawkins, that the "things contained" in it are also stolen.

A remarkable and interesting discussion took place in Congregation, at Oxford, on Thursday. The occasion was the promulgation of a new theological statute for the University. Theology has not thriven on the banks of the Isis, and it is therefore proposed to confiscate (we quote Professor Rawlinson's words) certain benefactions for the purpose of founding three scholarships. This measure was supported by the Master of Pembroke, the Provost of Oriel, Professor Hentley, Professor Stanley, the Master of Balliol, Professor Pusey, the Regius Professor of Divinity, and the Vice-Chancellor. We take especial note of these names, as we may have to look to these gentlemen to support the position of the Liberation Society, that public funds may, for the sake of public interests, be diverted from their original purpose, without that diversion being capable of the designation of "robbery and spoliation."

This meeting was equally remarkable for a general protest against, not exactly the use of Bishops, but against Episcopal action and interference. Some expressions carry us back to the days of the Long Parliament. Thus, Mr. Woolcombe, of Balliol, said "he must express an earnest hope that the bishops would let us alone"; Professor Stanley "hoped the bishops would not attempt to help the scheme by co-operation"; the Master of Balliol "believed the direct patronage of the Bishops had ruined the Cambridge examination," and the Regius Professor of Divinity "deprecated any reliance on the Bishops." We

assure the reader that we are not quoting from the proceedings of an Anti-State-Church Conference, but from the reports in the *English Churchman* and in the *Guardian* of March 19th, of a meeting of the Oxford University. Our own impression is that, after all, the Bishops have the best words said for them by Dissenters.

We have quoted a paragraph from the *Guardian* on the conflicting Church patronage of the Premier and the Lord Chancellor. The article from which the extract is taken is an elaborate charge against the present administration of Church patronage. We are told in it that those officers absolutely neglect the "higher interests" of the benefices; only the Chancellor's livings are "worse than the Prime Minister's." A sneer at the Villiers case is wedged in, and we are informed that "a son-in-law of Lord Russell would of course be fit for any living, however valuable," and the whole concludes with a sharp groan over the condition of the clergy:—

What the Church of England really wants, quite as much as an increase of her endowments, is some method of rewarding the diligent and earnest among her ministers with appropriate preferment. At present a man may work forty years with energy and success in her most responsible posts, and find no fitting acknowledgment of his deserts; he may exhaust his strength and resources in her service, and meet with no retirement to a less laborious sphere of duty in his old age. These things ought not so to be; they are the greatest of all hindrances to the increase of efficient and learned candidates for the ministry. We wish it were possible to entertain the hope that the proposal for altering the present system of Crown patronage might result in some plan which would offer a legitimate attraction to real ability among the clergy, and to some extent supply an answer to what is now perhaps the most serious reproach in the mouths of enemies to the Church.

We remarked a fortnight ago on the Bishop of Oxford's declaration that the Archbishop had suspended the observance of Lent for the day of the Prince of Wales's marriage. An ugly statement has since been made by a correspondent of the *Church Review*, who writes:—"It will be a satisfaction to all those Churchmen who faithfully maintained their principles to know that the Primate says, in a letter now before me, 'I have never claimed to myself the power of dispensing with the general observance of Lent on the 10th of March.'" The editor of the paper states that the Archbishop, in reply to inquiries from some of the clergy of his province, has declared, "that not only did he grant no dispensation for setting aside the Lenten fast on the occasion of the royal marriage, but that he has no power whatever to do so. It rests with the Bishop of Oxford, therefore, to justify the communication to the contrary which was made to his archdeacons." The Bishop, however, is silent. We do not, for a moment, suppose that he invented the Archbishop's "dispensation," but, but—the fact is, the less said about it the better.

We report at some length the proceedings of the *soirée* of the Liberation Society at Camberwell. This is the first of a series of similar meetings which it is intended to hold in different parts of the metropolis. There is a general impression that it is impossible to move London for any public object, and to a great extent this impression is a correct one. We remember that Dr. Newman, in his lectures on Catholicism in England, pointedly adverts to this fact, and suggests that it is better not to attempt any direct attack on the lethargy or indifference of the great city. The best way, he remarks, to move London is to move the large towns. This suggestion is worth noting, but we believe it will be found to be very possible to move the churches of London. Every church in the Camberwell district was represented at last Wednesday's meeting, and we have no doubt that every church in the Islington district will be represented next Tuesday. Both for moral and pecuniary power, it is desirable that the Liberation Society should become thoroughly known to the members of all the metropolitan congregations, and that it should be able, at any moment, to put its finger on persons in every church who are capable of bringing the power of the church to bear in support of the objects of the society.

SOIRÉE OF THE LIBERATION SOCIETY AT CAMBERWELL.

A numerous and respectable company assembled at Camberwell Hall last Wednesday evening, in connexion with the Liberation Society; the meeting being the first of a series intended to be held in the metropolis. Members of nearly all the Dissenting congregations in the neighbourhood were present, and among others who attended were Mr. Charles Curling, J.P., who acted as chairman, the Rev. J. Pillans, Rev. R. W. Betts, Rev. H. Bromley, Rev. B. Kent, of Norwood, Rev. W. K. Rowe, Rev. S. A. Davies, Mr. Wm. Edwards, Mr. Miall, and Mr. Carvell Williams.

After the company had taken tea, the Rev. J. Pillans offered prayer, and

The CHAIRMAN opened the business of the meeting. He said that the act of devotion in which they had just engaged gave to these proceedings that tone and character which in his opinion properly belonged to them, and he hoped that in the series of meetings which he understood were about to be held in the suburban districts of the metropolis the same course would be pursued. He was glad to have that opportunity of publicly identifying himself with the Liberation Society in a locality where he was, perhaps, not altogether unknown. (Cheers.) He wished that all the ministers of Dissenting churches would come forward and join the society—nay, it would not be inconsistent for even Churchmen themselves to do so. There was nothing in the principles of the society to prevent their doing so. (Hear, hear.) He was no anti-Church Dissenter; but he gloried in being an anti-State-Church Dissenter. At the same time he disavowed everything like hostility to the Church of England, and he was sure the Liberation Society would do the same. He was satisfied that the fact of belonging to that society did not prevent any one loving his brother or his neighbour. They believed that for the State to have any control in matters of religion was an unmixed evil to the Church, and, therefore, so far from wishing to do the Church any harm, they hoped to do it good, by freeing it from the fetters of State control. (Hear, hear.) He hoped that, so far as Church-rates were concerned, the watchword of the society would always be, "Total and unconditional abolition." (Cheers.)

The Rev. J. PILLANS spoke to the following sentiment:—"Voluntaryism, may the time be hastened when Christianity will be supported exclusively by Christian means instead of the coercive machinery of secular governments." The rev. gentleman said that naturally he was of a quiet and peaceable disposition, yet from conviction and conscience he was compelled to take part in the struggle against the connexion of Church and State, and sympathise with the society. Among the difficulties the friends of the society had to encounter, was that involved in the question, that it did not much matter how the money was raised to support the preaching of the Gospel, provided that the funds were forthcoming. He, however, considered the "how" a matter of the greatest importance, as affecting the influence the preaching had. The Creator might have provided the human race with food and raiment, without men and women making any exertion to obtain them, but the very exercise rendered necessary in getting these things was of the greatest benefit to mankind. If this principle was true concerning physical things, it applied with more force and energy to the support of the Christian life. They had just been giving to a Princess a warm and hearty reception, and this country was proud of it, because one of its greatest glories was that it came voluntarily from a free people. The presence of the volunteers in the park was said to be a peculiar glory, because, where in most other countries such an array could only have been made by force, here it was a voluntary exhibition by a free and happy people. The voluntary principle was also admirably illustrated by the movement in aid of the distress in Lancashire. This calamity could only be met in two ways, either by taxation, or the coercive principle, or by free donations, or the voluntary one. This question was decided by both Churchmen and Dissenters, and they all said it must be by the voluntary offerings of the country. If Government had given the aid, it was felt that it would degrade the recipients, while if the other plan was adopted it would show the sympathy and love that existed in the hearts of their fellow-countrymen. (Hear, hear.) If this voluntary principle applied to the lower kinds of life, was not it applicable in a greater degree to Christianity, the higher kind of life? No doubt there was a great mixture of motives, as there ever would be when any large number of people united in a work of that kind; but for all that the principle was a sound one, and it was the development which it received in this country that made England so great among the nations. (Cheers.) He had therefore no sympathy at all with those who held that it did not matter how Christianity was supported, provided it was supported. It might be said, no doubt, that whether the Church was supported by the State or not, earnest religious people would find means of expressing their willingness; but still it remained true that the natural means of doing so was taken from them by the alliance of the Church with the State. A Church which allowed those natural means to be taken from it lost a great power of calling out and proving its spiritual life. If Christianity was to obtain full development and become the strong thing it ought to be, it must have scope for exercise. He therefore hoped that the time would speedily arrive when it would be supported exclusively by Christian means instead of the coercive machinery of secular Government. (Applause.)

The Rev. R. W. BETTS, of Hanover Chapel, Peckham, was the next speaker, the sentiment allotted to him being:—"Religious equality—may it come to be recognised as one of the rights of citizenship, and as essential to social and peace and Christian union." He was pleased to attend a meeting of the Liberation Society in Camberwell under such auspicious circumstances. He remembered some four or five years ago being present at a meeting under the presidency of that honoured man, that venerated champion of Nonconformity, the Rev. John Burnet. (Cheers.) The attendance, however, was small, for the time had not then come for the proper development of the liberation prin-

ciple in that neighbourhood. Camberwell was somewhat slow and Conservative, but happily the tone of feeling in regard to the union of Church and State was changing. The Bicentenary movement and the recent Church-rate contest in the parish had drawn attention to the question. He often felt surprised at the misconception which a great many very excellent and estimable men in that locality had in regard to the views and aims of the Liberation Society. The society had been used as a sort of "old bogie" to frighten people with, and just as some children continued to retain some of their old superstitious feeling about "old bogies," and felt uncomfortable alone in the dark, long after their parents had convinced them that there was no such personage in existence, so there were some persons who were horrified with the Liberation Society long after they ought to know better. (Hear, hear.) By many churchpeople in the parish it was supposed to have been at the bottom of the strong—he wished it had been successful—opposition to the last Camberwell Church-rate. Well, the secretary of the society was present, full of honours which he had won, but he was sure he would make no pretensions to that honour. If there had been a local organisation during the recent contest, he believed that the numbers at the close of the poll would have had a different appearance. (Hear, hear.) They should then have had a majority of votes as they had of voters, and not have out-manoeuvred as they were by the Local Church-Defence Association, by means of old ladies from Dalwich with half-a-dozen votes in their pockets, who were brought to the poll to save the Church from being destroyed by the terrible Dissenters. (Laughter and cheers.) All honour to the old ladies, he said, for coming, and giving their votes as their godfathers and godmothers promised that they should do. (Renewed laughter.) No, the Liberation Society had not the honour of being the prime mover in the opposition to the Church-rate, for which indeed some present in that room had been summoned, and for which some were now threatened with distress warrants. (Shame.) He was present in May last at a meeting of the Camberwell Church-Defence Society, but as no person opposed to the society was allowed to speak, the extraordinary statements of one of the speakers, the Rev. Joseph Bardsley, were allowed to pass uncontradicted. Some strange things also fell from the lips of some of the local clergy. One gentleman, the minister of a church nearer Peckham than Camberwell, spoke of his habit of meeting Dissenting ministers on platforms, and another, while attributing the existence of slavery in the Southern States of America to the want of a State Church—(great laughter)—deploring that he could now no longer co-operate with Dissenters in outward uniformity. Surely the reference to the habit of meeting Dissenting ministers on platforms must have been made with regard to some place beyond range of Camberwell, for he (Mr. Betts) had been at Bible meetings, Ragged-school meetings, London City Mission meetings, and other meetings of that class at various times during his residence of nearly ten years in that locality, but he had never met a single clergyman—say a poor stray curate—on any platform, however broad and catholic it might be. (Hear, hear.) The clergyman who could no longer co-operate with Dissenters in outward uniformity was the same who four or five years ago promised to attend a ragged-school meeting, but who, when the bill was sent him with the name of a Dissenting minister standing next his own, declined to come. (Hear, hear.) It was moonshine to attribute the want of co-operation to the Bicentenary movement. There might be less of pretended co-operation, but it was contrary to the ecclesiastical statutes of the Established Church to recognise a non-episcopally ordained person as a minister of Christ. The Dissenting minister, therefore, who declined to stand at a humble distance and not submit to be patronised or elbowed out of the houses of members of his congregation, because a clerical brother claimed them as his parishioners—a Dissenting minister who would not keep his schools in a second-rate position, nor withdraw his tract distributors from certain ecclesiastical boundaries—who respectfully, but formally, said to his clerical brother, "You are a minister of Christ, so am I"—that Dissenting minister was immediately put down in the private memorandum book of the "duly authorised minister" as one with whom co-operation was impossible. (Hear, hear.) He had no hesitation in saying that the great barrier to Christian union and co-operation was the State-Church principle. (Applause.)

The Rev. BENJAMIN KENT spoke to the third sentiment—"Self-support and self-government; may the members of the Established Churches prefer purity to political power, and freedom of action to the pecuniary favours of the State." He said that Dean Alford, in one of his works, referred to the fact that in the Church services there was no reading from the Book of Revelation; and Mr. Kent said that, however much a Church clergyman might consider it his duty to read a portion of that book to his flock, he was prevented by law from doing so, while the poorest Nonconformist minister had the power of consulting his own conscience on such a matter. He asked whether it was not a badge of intolerable servitude that ministers of the Church of England could not sit in convocation over the affairs of their own Church after the Minister of the day gave the sign to the Archbishop that the convocation must be dismissed. (Hear, hear.) Was it not monstrous that in such an important matter as the appointment of a bishop the ministers of the Established Church should not be allowed to choose for themselves? And was it not a horrible profana-

tion that the dean and chapter of a diocese should ask the assistance of the Holy Spirit in directing them to elect a proper person for their bishop, at the same time that they held in their hands the name of the person appointed by Government? They had got rid of the old borough-mongering principle, that a Minister had the right to send down a nominee to represent the constituency in Parliament, and surely the people should have a similar right in appointing the person to minister to them in spiritual things. He concluded by stating that Mr. Gladstone had said that, looking back on former years, he did not think that Dissenters had injured the Church of England, and looking forward, he did not think they would. In that sentiment he (Mr. Kent) cordially concurred, or else he would not belong to the Liberation Society.

Mr. E. MIALl addressed the meeting on the following sentiment:—"The Liberation Society—may the results of its past operations, and the greatness of its present opportunities, stimulate its friends to renewed and earnest effort." He supposed that he need not shrink from avowing that he was a member of the Liberation Society, and that he had been from its commencement. (Laughter and cheers.) One of the noblest men that ever preached the Gospel—John Bunnet—who had now quitted earth for heaven, never regretted having joined the society, and under the shield and countenance of such a name he would be proud to acknowledge his own adhesion to its ranks in any part of the kingdom. (Cheers.) They were abused because they were misunderstood, and they were misunderstood because some people did not wish to understand them—who would not inquire into their principles and aims because they were uneasy lest the results should come about which they were seeking to attain. It might appear uncharitable to make that observation, but how otherwise could they account for certain facts of every-day occurrence? Here, for instance, was a man professing to be a member of the Church of Christ, aiming to save souls, and regarding souls as the most important and precious objects that could be cared for by human sympathy—one into whose spirit had been breathed the large, benevolent, and catholic spirit of the Christian faith. Such a person saw others working all Christian works, and yet he turned his back upon them as though they did not belong to the Church of Christ, simply because they paid for their own religion. Hereafter began to be ashamed of some of his countrymen—ashamed of their want of manliness of spirit—who dared not to stand against the social disrespect they would incur by doing right and by acting according to their conscientious convictions, who, because they could not bear to be sneered at by those among whom they lived, cast all manner of scorn and contempt on the Liberation Society and other associations of a liberal tendency. The State paid for their religion and patronised it, and they were base enough to say that they took the arrangement on account of the poor. He could not understand this. (Hear, hear.) He could understand it in some people, but not in Englishmen. He did not blame the clergy of the Established Church, but men of influence, standing, and name, among the laity, who were content to walk behind the clergy in doing wrong; who cut themselves off from communion with men whose spirit they secretly admired, and then poured contempt on the Liberation Society for trying to carry out the dictates of their consciences. The society was now nearly twenty years old, and some people were asking what it had accomplished. They had done what they could, and that was something. (Hear, hear.) A previous speaker (Mr. Pillans) had given a beautiful exposition of the value of doing what we could. It was God's plan not to put the chief benefit of things in the end, but in the means by which we arrived at the end. Now suppose the Liberation Society had done nothing more than give expression to their own views, had spoken the truth in regard to what they believed to be the Master's will, and had banded themselves together to carry out an object, not for their own advantage, but for the advantage of the Church—that would be something. (Hear, hear.) He would not run over the list of measures they had accomplished in Parliament, nor enlarge upon the change of tone which had taken place in the public press in reference to questions affecting religious liberty. When Mr. Gladstone talked of their efforts not putting the Church in the slightest danger they knew what he meant. If they were doing nothing their opponents would say nothing about them, be assured. But from all parts of the country, in all their varied assemblies, by every means and through every instrumentality by which clergymen, archdeacons, and bishops could speak, they were all of them casting their maledictions upon the Liberation Society. Would they do that upon a faint bantling that was going out of the world without accomplishing any result? Not at all. What then were they doing? Why, they were showing a light—the light of truth—on the evils of a State Church. Whilst the advocates of that Church were quarrelling amongst themselves, they, on the other hand, were simply letting in upon them the light of that principle which they professed to have derived from the Scriptures of salvation. It was on that account that they were everywhere spoken against. And yet he believed that there had not been in this country an organisation which had been conducted in a more pacific spirit. He should like to have asked that clergyman who spoke of the Liberation Society as "infantile" what he knew about it, or whether that was a parrot-cry which had been raised in order to excite a panic amongst Church-people, and prevent the light of truth penetrating amongst them? (Hear, hear.) No doubt this would

be called exceedingly uncharitable, but it was true. (Hear, hear.) If Protestant Dissenters had taken their stand upon the principle of religious equality, if they had preached their principles as they preached the Gospel (and it was as much their duty to do the one as the other) there would not have been at the present day that awful scepticism abroad as to the reality of the religion of those who professed the name of Christ which characterised the present age. Why, if there was any truth in their principles they ought to press them upon men's attention, not in anger, indignation, or enmity, but in love, in zeal, and in fidelity to the great Master. The Dissenting bodies of England had not, truly speaking, discharged their duty in that respect. They were not bearing the testimony they ought to bear against the sin of their brethren. The Liberation Society had been constituted in order to perform this duty, and he for one honoured it, and the course which it had taken. He did not say that that course had been free from all mistakes, but he did contend that it would bear comparison with any other existing organisation for the purity of the motives of those who conducted its affairs, and for the earnestness and simplicity of their desire to please their Master Christ Jesus. He hoped that those who were present would commend the society to their friends. Above all, let nobody deem it necessary to apologise for being thought to be connected with it. Their friends who took an opposite view of the relations of Church and State were not in the habit of apologising much, though they formed Church-Defence Associations and voted for Church-rates in order to pay the expenses of their own worship out of the pockets of other people. He (Mr. Miall) was one of the most pacific men that ever lived—"Hear, and a laugh"—it would be the greatest happiness to him if he could go through life without hurting the feelings of any single individual, and at the same time do the duty for which God had placed him in the world. But God had endowed men with feelings which they ought to exercise for the protection of truth and the dispersion of error. Why should they walk in the light of other men's consciences, or be thankful to them because they enjoyed the light of the sun without their interference? (Hear, hear.) He claimed to have a position given to him by his Maker and by Providence equal in its right to that of any other subject of her Majesty; and when men came and put their hands into his pockets, and took money therefrom, for the payment of their worship, and then expressed the utmost contempt for him, as though he were not fit for their society, he always felt inclined to say:—"Jesus I know, and Paul I know, but who are ye." (Hear, hear.) Let all the true friends of the Liberation Society present their principles to others without fear, but in love. There was no reason for hurting the feelings of a single individual where they could avoid doing so and yet do their duty. But they were all placed there to do something. They were placed as witnesses for the truth. Everyone was bound to witness for the truth that he knew and believed, and he was sorry to say that Protestant Dissenters had a great deal more truth in them than they had fully borne witness to. Let that state of things come to an end, and when it did there would no longer be any necessity for the further exertions of the Liberation Society. (Cheers.)

Mr. CARVELL WILLIAMS, in briefly supporting the sentiment, contrasted the state of feeling which prevailed at the promotion of the Liberation Society, when many Dissenters were deterred from joining it from a belief that the separation of Church and State was an impossibility, with the fact that what had already been effected in that direction had alarmed the supporters of Church Establishments into the formation of hundreds of local organisations to prevent the further success of this society. He also expressed the opinion that for all the labour and money expended in carrying on the society's work an ample reward had been received, both in the measures which had been obtained from Parliament, and in the tendency of public opinion towards the adoption of the principle of religious equality. (Hear, hear.) Even now, when it was not possible to pass measures through Parliament, the friends of voluntarism were the only political party in the country who were united, thoroughly in earnest, and well organised for action. Let it not, however, be supposed that the society did not require an accession of strength to enable it to carry on its enterprise successfully in the new circumstances in which it was now placed. (Hear.) If it was to seize the golden opportunities now presenting themselves, greater support, moral as well as pecuniary, must be afforded, and there must be greater self-sacrifice and willingness to bear obloquy, as well as to render active personal service. He appealed especially to the younger men in the Nonconformist ranks to prepare themselves intelligently to take part in a conflict which could not possibly be avoided, and the end of which would be witnessed by them, though the full realisation of their wishes might not be granted to their fathers. (Cheers.)

Mr. GEORGE FREEMAN moved, and the Rev. W. K. ROWE seconded, the appointment of a local committee of the society for the district of Camberwell and Peckham.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr. W. EDWARDS moved a vote of thanks to the chairman. The motion was seconded and carried by acclamation, after which the proceedings were brought to a close.

The *soirée* to be held at Islington is, we observe, to take place next Tuesday evening, at Myddelton Hall. Remembering the strength of Nonconformity

in the district, we have no doubt that there will be a good attendance on the occasion.

THE CONTROVERSY IN THE CHURCH.

The controversy in the *Times*, which originally sprang out of Professor Jowett's case, has not ceased, though it has somewhat diverged from the subject first discussed. "Oxonienis" states that himself and other reformers in 1842-3 took part in the endeavour to condemn Tract 90, regarding that publication "as a dishonest expedient for enabling concealed Romanists to retain University privileges and position, while orthodox Nonconformist Protestants were still excluded, bent their efforts to defeat the scheme, as tending to the postponement of a liberal comprehension. The other section, of which Professor Jowett was a member, regarded the comprehension of Romanists, on the principles of Tract 90, a first step, the thin end of the wedge, to be followed by latitude in an opposite direction." "Oxonienis" adds:—"Which was right, and which was wrong, the Professor's present experience will enable him to decide."

Dr. Pusey, in the course of a reply to the letter of "An Oxford Liberal of Twenty Years' Standing," says:—

I always understood it to be a received principle that any statute, canon, or article meant that, and that only, which is contained in the clear, grammatical meaning of the words, taken in their known, received, unchanged sense. We received the Articles from the Convocation of 1663, made law by the Act of Uniformity. In that literal, grammatical sense which I believed and believe their framers to have intended, I ever subscribed them, and, my subscription abiding, do subscribe them now. In my judgment, this is the sense in which they were originally proposed. . . . I showed equally, twenty years ago, in middle age, as now, when life is setting, and there is no long earthly future to look on to, that I held it unprincipled to retain my office on sufferance, or upon any subscription of the Articles other than that which I, *ex animo*, believed to be the real meaning in which they are and were proposed to us.

In a further letter Dr. Pusey again deals with the question of Tract 90 and its principles. He declares that when it appeared, while one in faith with his friend Dr. Newman, he certainly differed with him as to the character of our Reformers, and would not have used the expression which he employed,—"the stammering lips of ambiguous formularies." But, he goes on to argue, that, while the Articles are to be received in their grammatical sense, certain points are thereby designedly left open. He cites the Gorham judgment to this effect. He then goes into details with regard to the proceedings of the University authorities in reference to the notorious tractate, and concludes,—"I must add that could I have thought that the questions now at issue did not vitally affect 'fundamental truth,' I should never have engaged in the present proceedings, which are so full of pain. I would have abstained from them had I dared."

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY CONVOCATION have adopted a petition against the Endowed Schools Bill.

CEMETERIES.—It appears by a Parliamentary return that cemeteries have been constituted under the Burial Acts in 354 parishes in England and Wales. Thirty-six cemeteries have been established under local acts, or are the private property of individuals. Nine of the cemeteries have no part consecrated.

THE RECENT RESIGNATION IN THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH.—It will be remembered that some nine months ago the Rev. Christopher Neville, M.A., announced his intention to resign his benefices on account of his objections to the use of some portions of the Book of Common Prayer. To one of these livings—the vicarage of Thorney, near Newark—the Rev. J. E. Johnson, M.A., has been appointed by the Bishop of Lincoln.

THE SPANISH PROTESTANTS.—A letter from Stuttgart of the 11th says:—"M. de Gunther, tutor to the heir-presumptive to the throne, and chaplain to the court, has left to-day for Paris on an invitation from the Evangelical Alliance of London. He will be met in the French capital by the other members of a deputation, composed of Englishmen, Dutchmen, and Prussians, who will proceed to Madrid to make representations to that court in favour of the Spanish Protestants."

INDIAN MISSION STATISTICS.—The *Bombay Guardian* compares the statistics of Missions in 1861 with those of 1851 collected by Dr. Mullens:—

	1851.	1861.
Missionaries	363	418
Churches	266	890
Communicants	14,711	21,252
Native Christians	91,295	118,893
Boys in Schools	87,062	54,888
Girls in Schools	11,193	14,723

According to the rate of advance exhibited by these statistics, the native church might be expected to double itself every twenty-five years; the native Christian body, about three times in a century.

AN ULTRA RITUALIST "FREE CHURCH."—In the neighbourhood of Notting-hill there has been, for some time past, an iron building, called a "Free Church," in which services on the Tractarian model have been carried on by a person calling himself "the Rev. Mr. Marchmont." The *Guardian* says:—"The claims of the so-called 'Free Church' at Notting-hill, are about to be put to the test, the Bishop of London having served Mr. Marchmont with a mandate, requesting him to produce his letters of ordination. On Sunday week, says the *Baywater Chronicle*, a scene took place, Mr. Marchmont being interrupted in his sermon by one the congregation putting some rather unpleasant

questions to him. As there is no punishment for offences of this kind in an unregistered, unlicensed building, Mr. Marchmont was only able to argue with his opponent."

SUNDAY OPENING OF THE EDINBURGH BOTANIC GARDEN.—The Lords of the Treasury having deferred till spring their decision as to opening the Edinburgh Botanic Garden on Sunday afternoons, the local agitation on the question was revived a few weeks ago, and many additional memorials were sent to their lordships. On Thursday the Lord Provost received a letter from Mr. Peel, stating that, "having taken all the circumstances into full consideration, and especially the divided state of opinion in Edinburgh, and the strong expression of feeling against opening the garden on Sundays, conveyed to this board in memorials from many congregations and places in Scotland, my Lords have come to the conclusion that it is their lordships' duty, on the whole, to make no change in the rules regarding admission into this garden."

PURSEYITE PROTESTANTISM.—There has been diffused through all classes a deep and genuine feeling of joy at the happy marriage of the Prince of Wales, and consequently a great number of congratulatory addresses presented to him. The University of Oxford has determined to follow this example, and, in a meeting of the council, composed of heads of houses, professors, and members of convocation, with whom rests the initiative of all university legislation, proposed to congratulate the Prince on having found a Protestant Princess whom the Act of Settlement permits him to marry. One would think that this form, long sanctioned by usage, had nothing in it objectionable; yet a well-known (if not quite a favourite) doctor (Dr. Pusey) opposed it, and carried an amendment. Our readers will be surprised to hear that his objection was that the Princess Alexandra, being a Dane, could not be properly called a Protestant! He argued that Denmark was given up to Rationalism, and on that ground the obnoxious word was left out by a majority.—*London Review*.

A CHURCH VIEW OF CROWN PATRONAGE.—If the wit of man had been taxed to devise a method of administering Church patronage which should ensure the absence of all regard to the special fitness of the presentee for his post, it could hardly have invented a better one than that which puts it in the hands of the Prime Minister or the Lord Chancellor. It is not merely that the urgent and varied claims of the great offices they hold leave them no time for acquainting themselves with the circumstances and requirements of the parishes in their patronage; more than this, their pursuits and associations render it almost impossible for them to know anything of the state of opinion among the clergy, or of the estimation in which the various candidates for preferment are held. If the Commander-in-Chief had the appointment of the County Court Judges, it would not be a whit more ridiculous than the assignment of this large amount of Church patronage to great political and legal functionaries. The result is, that any idea of choosing the fittest man for a benefice is abandoned; and personal or political friends scramble, as best they may, for the nomination to any vacant benefice in the Royal gift.—*Guardian*.

THE HEATHEN BISHOPS OF THE "S.P.G."—The American missionaries who have long been labouring successfully in the Sandwich Islands, send word that the Bishop of Honolulu, who has recently arrived at Hawaii with a staff of English clergymen, is a full-blown Tractarian, treating the savages to all manner of Church millinery and ceremonial observances, and preaching salvation by the sacraments. He avows that he takes a middle place between the Roman Catholic and the Protestant missionaries in the islands, and his clergy refuse to join the latter in prayer-meetings or other efforts for the evangelisation of the people. The list of the heathen bishops, therefore, now stands thus:—

BISHOP OF NATAL.—Septical or Zulu school.
THE BISHOP OF THE ZAMBESI (MACKENZIE).—Muscular school. *De mortuis*, &c.

DITTO (TOZER).—Ditto. Avowed object: "Low type of Christianity with civilisation." Instrument of conversion: Highly ornamented crook, in ebony and silver.

BISHOP OF LABUAN.—Muscular school. Instruments of conversion: case of revolvers.

BISHOP OF HONOLULU.—Tractarian school. Instruments of conversion: Vestments, altar-cloths, candles, &c.

BISHOP OF ORANGE RIVER FREE STATE.—Muscular school. Methods undeveloped, there being no English clergyman and no congregation yet in his diocese.

To these we presume, we shall shortly have to add a Bishop of Madagascar of the High Tractarian school. These are the appointments of the S.P.G. If any one wonders, he should understand that the panacea for the conversion of the world, in the belief of the members of that society, is not the Gospel, but Episcopacy.—*Patriot*.

BURIAL FEES AND DISSENTERS.—A rather important case, *Inglefield v. Ford*, came before Sir J. E. E. Wilmot, Bart., in the Marylebone County Court, on the 16th inst. It was an action brought by Charles Inglefield, of 31, North-row, Grosvenor-square, to recover the sum of 1*l.* from Joseph Ford, the secretary to the Paddington Burial Board, being for an overcharge of burial fees. The plaintiff's statement was that on the 20th November, 1862, a relative of his was interred in the parish cemetery at Finchley, in the unconsecrated portion of the ground. After paying the usual fees charged by the Burial Board, a further charge was made upon him—viz: sexton, 1*s.* 6*d.*; clerk, 2*s.*; and minister, 3*s.*; contrary to the Burial Act, 17th sec. of the 20th and 21st Vic. cap. 81, which is as follows:—

No fees shall be charged or received by a Burial Board

in respect of any services done, or right granted in the unconsecrated portion of any burial-ground provided by such board, but such as are identical in amount with the fees charged and received in respect of the same service or right in the consecrated portion of such ground, less any portion of such corresponding fees or payment which may be received for, or on account of, any incumbent, churchwarden, clerk, or sexton, or of any trustee for, or on behalf of, any incumbent, churchwarden, clerk, or sexton.

According to that Act of Parliament, he (plaintiff) appealed against the excessive costs he had paid, and he called a witness, who proved that he had applied to the sexton to refund the said amount, when he was told that all such complaints were to be referred to the board under whom he was a servant, and acting under their instructions. It was further stated that the question of burial-fees was at the present time under the serious consideration of the Home Secretary. Mr. Ford, in defence, said the only thing he knew of the affair was that the ordinary charges of the Burial Board had been paid, but all the overcharges had been received by Mr. Hogg, the sexton, who had not accounted for them to the board. In all respects he did not hold himself responsible in the matter. His Honour said the question was a most important one. He adjourned the case until the 2nd of April, for each side to have legal assistance, and thus have the case fairly tried.—*Marylebone Mercury*.

MR. SPURGEON'S 500TH SERMON.—On Wednesday evening, Messrs. Passmore and Alabaster, of Wilson-street, Finsbury, the printers of the Rev. Mr. Spurgeon's sermons, entertained a number of their friends—about 250—at a tea and supper in the lecture-hall of the Metropolitan Tabernacle, to celebrate the publication of the 500th sermon, and to raise additional funds in aid of Mr. Spurgeon's College for Training Young Ministers. Mr. Spurgeon addressed the company at some length.

Thirteen years ago, he said, he was teaching small boys in a country place—an occupation by no means congenial to his tastes. (Laughter.) Goldsmith had said that a man had better be hanged than have such work to do, and he (Mr. Spurgeon) was quite of that opinion. (Laughter.) He should hesitate, perhaps, for a time, but, in the end, no doubt, prefer the alternative of hanging. ("Hear, hear," and laughter.) He was not at the time alluded to big enough to be a master, and not small enough to be a boy. (Laughter.) He had had no college education. This he said not by way of boasting—far from it. (Hear.) He would have learned more if he had had the opportunity; but, that not being the case, he did what all ought to do—he made the best use he could of such opportunities as he had. (Cheers.) His friend Mr. Trestrail would recollect his addresses in the Sunday-school; and when he became popular there he was asked one day to walk out a little way to Teversham, and give out the hymns for a young man who, as he supposed, was going to preach. When they got half way there the young man said to him, "Now, I think it right to tell you that I cannot preach at all, and never have done, so that you must." (Laughter.) So he did. (Hear.) It was a queer little cottage, with a ceiling so low that a hole had to be cut in it to enable tall preachers to stand upright. (Laughter.) That hole, however, was not necessary in his case. (Laughter.) He was very glad when his first sermon came to an end, and as he sat down an old woman asked him how old he was. (Laughter.) He said he would talk to her after the benediction had been pronounced, and so he did, and told her that he was under forty. (Laughter.) She held that he must be considerably under twenty. ("Hear," and laughter.) As to his five hundred sermons, the latter ones were rough, no doubt, but they were exceedingly superfluous as compared with the earlier discourses of the series. (Hear.) The fact was, that he had used a homely oyster-knife where a razor would have been but of little use. (Hear, hear.) Nothing could be of more real service to a young preacher than the style of criticism to which he had been subjected—men who not only expressed their opinions very frankly—(laughter)—but sometimes in a bitter, nasty way—(Hear, hear)—and many a joke had been cracked at his expense. (Laughter.) Young preachers never liked such critics, but after all they were their best friends.

Mr. Spurgeon further stated that no less than eight million copies of his sermons were in the hands of the public. Since he had been pastor of that church he had baptized 3,000 persons. His College had now fifty-four students; and if they had 400, they could place them out in suitable spheres of labour. The subsequent speakers were, Mr. James Spicer, Mr. James Grant, the Rev. Dr. Campbell, Mr. P. Bayne, the Rev. F. Trestrail, General Sir John Burgoyne, Mr. Apeley Pellatt, and the Rev. J. C. Middle ditch. At the supper General Sir John Burgoyne presided, and the usual loyal toasts were duly honoured. "Messrs. Alabaster and Passmore," and "The Rev. Mr. Spurgeon," were also toasts which commanded much enthusiasm, and the proceedings terminated in the usual way. The subscriptions in aid of the College reached the handsome sum of 500*l.*

RAGGED-SCHOOL DEMONSTRATION IN EXETER HALL.—The annual meeting for the distribution of the Ragged-school Union prizes to boys and girls who owe their rescue and religious training to the London ragged-schools, and are now earning their livelihood in situations, took place in Exeter Hall on Wednesday evening. The children began to assemble in the centre of the hall shortly after five p.m., marshalled in good order under the teachers of the several schools, each of which displayed its distinctive banner. The hour between six and seven was occupied in tea-drinking, and during this time the friends of ragged-schools who had tickets were gathering in large numbers on the platform and in the western gallery. Among those on the front platform were the Earl of Shaftesbury, Alderman Sir R. W. Carden, Mr. Lawson, M.P., Rev. S. Martin, Mr. Bodkin (Assistant-Judge), Mr. A. Haldane, Mr. G. H. H. Oliphant-Ferguson, Mr. Martin Ware, Mr. Fowler,

Mr. John Macgregor, Mr. Locke, Mr. Mountstephen, Mr. Gent, Mr. Fordham, Mr. Stuart, &c. The whole scene at seven o'clock was striking and suggestive. The body of the hall was filled with nearly 1,000 of the children and teachers, and studded with the banners, of many forms and varied colours, but all proclaiming adherence to the army of the Ragged-school Union. All were cleanly, and some almost genteelly dressed, and the place resounded with the hum of merry voices, bespeaking the occasion to be indeed a holiday. Presently the Earl of Shaftesbury, who was accompanied by one of the younger members of his family, came upon the platform, and took the presidential chair. His appearance was the signal for an outburst of cheering which made the hall resound again. Flags and handkerchiefs were vigorously waved, and boys and girls seemed to emulate one another in such exuberance of joy that silence was not very speedily restored. At length, however, all was quiet, and the further proceedings were prefaced with prayer by the Rev. Samuel Martin. Then all united in singing. Mr. Gent, Secretary of the Ragged-school Union, then read a statement explaining the nature of the prizes distributed, and the conditions under which they had been awarded, from which it appeared that of the 730 candidates for prizes for 1862, 475 have held their places from one to two years, 151 have held their places from two to three years, 57 have held their places from three to four years, 32 have held their places from four to five years, and 16 have held their places from five years and upwards. The average age of the children then present was below fourteen years. Mr. John Macgregor delivered the first address. Touching pleasantly on various suggestive topics, he alluded to the improvement of his hearers in dress. Speaking of bonnets he commended to the girls the example of a lady who had lately come among us, long, he hoped, to remain. Was she a lady?—more. A countess?—higher. A duchess?—more than that. And the bonnets she brought with her were made by her own hands;—and she was the Princess of Wales (great applause). After some further remarks, Mr. Macgregor concluded with a practical summary of the most important ragged-school lessons to be kept in mind—to reverence the name of God, to love the book of God, to keep the day of God, and to trust in the Son of God. The children then walked across the front of the platform in single file, each school being headed by a teacher, who received from the noble Chairman the prizes, to be afterwards distributed individually. At the close of this ceremonial, a hymn was sung to the familiar and inspiring tune of "Home, sweet home." The Rev. Samuel Martin delivered the second address, founding his remarks on the word "Climb." Taking the separate letters as the heads of discourse, he urged them to climb after "Character," "Livelihood," "Independence," and "Magnanimity," in the sense of bearing little troubles quietly. What should he say for the "h"? [A child's voice, "Benevolence."] Oh! capital. (Applause.) Having enlarged on each of these heads, he next showed, in like manner, how they should climb—"Cautiously," "Lawfully," "Immediately," "Manfully," and "Believingly." He had kept them (he concluded) longer than he had intended, but he hoped they would forgive him, and his one word to them to-day was "Climb." (Great applause.) Alderman Sir R. W. Carden, in moving a vote of thanks to the chairman, said he regretted to announce that the most eloquent address which the noble Earl had delivered at the Polish meeting in the Guildhall on the preceding day had so tried his voice as totally to incapacitate him for speaking on this occasion. The noble Earl had been called the parent of all ragged-schools, and he (Sir Robert) heartily congratulated him on having so large and interesting a family. (Great applause.) Mr. Bodkin, Assistant Judge, seconded the motion, and on being put to the vote there was another outburst of enthusiasm. The proceedings were shortly afterwards closed with the doxology and the benediction.

Religious Intelligence.

KENT CONGREGATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

The first spring meetings of this association were held at Ashford on Tuesday and Wednesday, 3rd and 4th March, and were well attended by ministers and delegates from all parts of the county. On Tuesday evening a discourse was preached by the Rev. W. Gill, from Isaiah xxxiii. 20; the devotional services being conducted by the Revs. W. E. Parrett and A. Turner. After this, the Lord's Supper was observed, the Rev. J. Beazley presiding.

On Wednesday there was an early morning prayer-meeting, and during the morning and afternoon meetings for business and conference. The report of the executive committee showed the satisfactory operation of the new movement for employing lay evangelists in secluded districts under the oversight of neighbouring ministers. Two new agents of this class have been placed at Yalding and Newnham, and another is to be appointed to a field of labour near Dover.

After the transaction of some necessary business, a very able paper was read by the Rev. T. B. Hart, of Dover, on "Our Churches: their Condition, Duties, and Prospects." Conversation on topics suggested by the paper then followed. It was thought that one reason why young people leave us is that we are not careful about being respectable. We should have suitable and attractive buildings. It might be said that the Gospel ought to be attractive: true, but we have to deal with human nature

as it is, and appearance goes a great way in the present day. To be a Nonconformist requires strong convictions, and some young people go from us who do not inherit the convictions of their fathers. This should not discourage us. Many Episcopalians are coming to us. Prince Albert is said to have remarked to a Congregationalist, "Your principles are Scriptural, but you are always quarrelling among yourselves." It is a great duty to consider how we may best commend the principles we hold. The prayer-meeting should be an efficient means of grace. But long prayers, without life and without speciality, spoil them. Our great power is our simple godliness. This enlists the sympathies of persons of all denominations. We must pay attention to preaching the simple and full exhibition of Christ Jesus. The craving for short sermons, said one, betrays a weak and sickly state of religious feeling. There is no difficulty in sustaining lengthened attention at secular entertainments.

A brief and interesting paper was afterwards read by the Rev. W. E. Parrett, of Milton, on church agencies for the benefit of the young, and for promoting general evangelisation. He suggested that churches do not take that interest in Sunday-schools which they should. Better teachers should sometimes be engaged; indeed, the best men and women should take their part in the education of the young. It would be well if ministers should direct some remarks in course of preaching to the children who form so large a proportion of the Sunday morning congregation. Bible-classes should not be entirely left to the minister. Many able members of the church might efficiently conduct them. There was in many minds only one idea with regard to the privileges and duties of membership—viz., the observance of the Lord's Supper. But it seemed to be one design in the constitution of churches that they should proclaim the Gospel to those around, and that individual members should "do the work of an evangelist." Schemes of tract distribution are not worked as they might be. There should be something more than the mere exchange of tracts; invitations should be given to persons to attend the house of God, and to send their children to the Sunday-school. Much good might be done by selecting judicious persons to speak to and invite others. Not only each church, but each church-member, should be a power for good.

Conversation followed the reading of this suggestive paper. In support of the view that increased attention must be given to the best means of interesting the young and attaching them to our services, it was stated that in a public-house a performance of sacred music takes place every Sunday evening, and in another a musical clock playing tunes is to be heard on Sunday evenings only—in both cases, of course, with a view to attract the young. Bible-classes and Mutual Improvement Societies are valuable means of instruction and employing the time of young people. One speaker has a class of children from five to twelve years of age, numbering forty to fifty; another has a similar class numbering 200. Both regard the influence thus exercised as most beneficial. In the north scholars are kept in the Sunday-schools much longer than in south. Numerous separate rooms are provided for senior classes; the most intelligent, respectable, and devout young men and women in the congregation are engaged as teachers, and by remaining in connexion with the school on to middle life retain the scholars even after they are married.

The importance of evangelistic labour was also dwelt upon; it can scarcely be over-estimated; but there is some danger lest it should be thought to supersede the work of church-members. Some have thought it hardly fair that they should be stirred up to work as well as asked to support an evangelist. Most gratifying results have followed the labours of these agents. In one instance, after preaching in the open air, a room was opened for regular worship and for Sunday-school teaching. Two or three young men assisted the evangelist. Sixty or seventy people regularly meet on the Sunday, and thirty or forty children are taught in the school. The evangelist is gone to college to qualify himself for further service, and the work of the station thus auspiciously commenced is carried on by three or four young men. Experience shows that it is most important to get suitable rooms for worship, for the people cannot pay for sittings in our chapels, and are therefore unwilling to occupy them, nor have they clothes to come in; moreover, they do not like to intrude upon the homes of their neighbours by going into their cottages.

The proceedings were brought to close on Wednesday evening, when a public meeting was held, and was exceedingly well attended. The Rev. A. Turner occupied the chair. After prayer had been offered by the Rev. T. T. Waterman, B.A., the Rev. H. Baker (the secretary) gave some interesting and encouraging accounts of the labours of evangelists. Addresses were then delivered by the Rev. S. D. Hillman on our churches and their means of self-education; by the Rev. G. L. Herman, on the resources of our churches for aggressive Christian effort; and by the Rev. W. R. Noble, on the motives and encouragements to Christian effort. The interest of the assembly was well sustained, and the proceedings were concluded by the chairman.

TOLMERS-SQUARE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, HAMPTSTEAD-ROAD.—Our readers will perceive from our advertising columns that this new and beautiful structure will be opened on Tuesday next, 31st March, when Rev. Samuel Martin, of Westminster, Chairman of the Congregational Union, will preach in the

morning, and the Rev. Enoch Mellor, M.A., of Liverpool, chairman elect, in the evening.

MILTON ROAD, HORNSEY NEW TOWN.—At a meeting of members at Hare-court Chapel, Canonbury, on Monday evening, 16th inst., a resolution was submitted, asking for a special meeting for the consideration of the recognition of the members worshipping at Milton-road Temporary Chapel as a distinct and independent church; which being rejected, the Rev. Fred. Tomkins, M.A., LL.D., who has officiated as minister at the latter place during the last two years, and under whose teaching, crowned with blessing from on high, between fifty and sixty persons have been added to the church, tendered a notice of the termination of his engagement with the church at Hare-court Chapel, Canonbury, on the 24th day of June next, which was accepted by its pastor.

CITY-ROAD JUVENILE MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION.—The fourth anniversary of this association was held in the City-road Congregational Chapel on Tuesday, March 17. Tea was provided in the school-room at six o'clock, when about 150 were present; after which the articles of clothing for the native children in the island of Mare, South Seas, made by the girls during the past year, and which had been very tastefully arranged, were inspected. The public meeting was held in the chapel at half-past seven, when there was a very large attendance. The Rev. Alexander Hannay, the president of the association, occupied the chair, and after singing, opened the meeting by prayer and then made a few introductory remarks. Extracts from the report of the association for 1862 were read by the secretary, Mr. F. H. Rooks, from which it appeared that the amount raised during the year was 46*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.*, which had been collected by fifty-four young persons connected with the chapel and schools. Very interesting extracts were also read from a report of the Mission Schools conducted by the Rev. John Jones in the island of Mare, South Seas, in which there are ten children supported by the young people at City-road. Addresses were afterwards given by the Rev. J. Dalgliesh, late missionary to Barbice, and the Rev. William Hill, missionary from Calcutta, and after a cordial vote of thanks to the chairman, the speakers, and the ladies for the tea, the meeting was closed with singing and prayer by the chairman.

MARGATE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.—The Rev. H. W. Butcher, of Long Buckby, Northamptonshire, has accepted a cordial invitation to the pastorate of this church; and is expected to commence his labours here on the first Sabbath in April.

BOCKING.—The Rev. Samuel Clarkson, of Manchester, has received and accepted a call to the co-pastorate of the ancient Congregational Church at Bocking Braintree, Essex, for more than sixty years under the pastoral care of the Rev. Thomas Craig. Mr. Clarkson purposes commencing his labours at Bocking on the third Sabbath in April.

THE MADAGASCAR MISSION.—The Rev. B. Briggs, senior student of Airedale College, having recently received a cordial and unanimous invitation to the pastorate of Dogley-lane Chapel, Huddersfield, has felt it his duty to decline it in consequence of his preference for work in the mission field. Mr. Briggs has already been accepted by the London Missionary Society as missionary to Madagascar, and expects shortly to proceed to that island.

PRINCES-STREET CHAPEL, NORWICH.—We are sorry to state that the Rev. Edward Stallybras Prout, M.A., has been obliged to resign his co-pastorate with the Rev. John Alexander, by the failure of his health. During three years and a-half he has conducted his ministry with fidelity and success, and has afforded willing and efficient help to his aged colleague. But a period of rest from all ministerial labour became necessary, and he has left Norwich with the affectionate esteem of his Christian brethren. On his departure, his Bible-class presented him with a handsome copy of Wycliffe's New Testament, and several members of the congregation with a purse of fifty sovereigns.

CHRISTIAN UNION AT IPSWICH.—For some weeks past the various Dissenting congregations in Ipswich have been cultivating a closer Christian alliance, by united services at different chapels: those services culminated on Wednesday by a united meeting at Tacket-street Chapel, where members of different sects (excepting one only, we believe) received the sacrament together. The spacious building was crowded throughout. The ministers and other officials from the various congregations attended and assisted in the solemn ceremony. Addresses of an appropriate character were delivered. The spectacle, on the whole, was something extraordinary to look upon, and excited much reverent attention amongst those who took no part in the celebration.—*Suffolk Chronicle.*

CASTLE-STREET CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL, READING.—The recognition service in connection with the settlement of the Rev. Richard Bulmer (late of Walsall), as pastor of the above church, took place on Thursday evening last, March 19th. The Rev. W. Legg, B.A., presided. The Rev. J. Aldia, (Baptist) commenced the service with reading the Scriptures and prayer. The Rev. T. G. Horton, of Wolverhampton (the former pastor of the church), delivered an admirably concise and eloquent address on "Congregational principles." The Rev. R. Bulmer stated the reasons which induced him to accept the call of the church, and in an earnest strain indicated that the chief theme of his future ministry would be "Christ and his Cross." After prayer by the Rev. J. Rowland, of Henley-on-Thames, the Rev. R. D. Wilson, of Birmingham, addressed the minister, in a discourse marked by an earnest piety and impassioned eloquence, and full of affectionate

and faithful ministerial advice. The Rev. F. J. Stevenson, B.A., concluded the highly interesting service. The attendance was very numerous, and in addition to the ministers named above, there were also present on the occasion, the Revs. — Biddow, of Newbury, J. O. Whitehouse, D. Mossop, J. Dade, well, &c. On Sunday, March 22nd, the Rev. T. G. Horton preached specially to the church and congregation.

HANLEY.—The school-rooms connected with the Tabernacle requiring alteration, and class-rooms being needed for the accommodation of the senior scholars, it was determined in the autumn of last year to improve and enlarge the premises. They have been recently re-opened by a public tea-meeting. In the evening addresses were delivered by several ministers and friends from the neighbourhood. A sum sufficient to meet the estimated cost was promised prior to August 24th, as a Bicenntenary offering, but it was found needful to exceed this amount when the work was contracted for. Towards meeting the deficiency collections were made on Sunday, March 15, after sermons by the Rev. Dr. Fiddling, of Rotherham College. The expense incurred is about 320*l.*, and the subscriptions, collections, proceeds of the tea-meeting, and a small fund raised some years ago for the same purpose, amount to about 250*l.*

Correspondence.

COTTON FAMINE—HINCKLEY CONGREGATIONAL RELIEF FUND.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR.—We beg very gratefully to acknowledge the sums named under, and especially to thank the congregation at Gallowtree Gate, Leicester, for their kind and opportune relief. We must, however, say that in the present day of liberal things the wants of the distressed Congregationalists of Leicestershire have not been proportionately met, and beg once more to plead their cause. From all sources we have received about 30*l.* This sum, as will be seen, is entirely inadequate to the needs of the people. We have not had any organisation for collecting money, nor have we received any help from the London and Manchester Congregational Relief Funds. We have been hoping that we might possibly get through without much assistance from anywhere. This is now impossible. A glance at the following statistics will show that though we cannot put our distress before the country in the appalling numbers of hundreds of thousands, the proportion of distress is perhaps greater in Hinckley than in any other town. We have a population of about 5,000, and from the report of the Secretary of the General Relief Fund last week, March 7, 1863, there are 2,442 persons, or very nearly one half of the population, in receipt of relief, and subsisting on 1*s.* 1*d.* per head, per week. We could easily supply an abundance of harrowing details, but refrain from so doing, as we have no desire to become sensational beggars; and would that we had no need to ask for help in any way!

Touching the matter of a separate fund, permit us to say that the theory of non-sectarianism in the distribution of charitable funds is very beautiful, and that we are thankful that Congregationalists have generally been the first to advocate its claims; but practically, every one who has had any experience in the distribution of the relief funds throughout the country, knows that supplementary funds are an unpleasant necessity to the various denominations. There are many cases of deep distress which the general fund cannot possibly meet, while the peculiar relationship of the several societies and congregations which necessarily come out in the details often demands a separate treatment. The Congregation-lists of Hinckley form about half of our working population. They have been now for many months enduring the greatest privations. Their poverty and distress have not been brought upon them by their own idleness or want of economy, but arise entirely from the present enormous and uncertain price of cotton, and claim, therefore, our warmest sympathy. The consequences of this long and unprecedented depression in our staple trade are fearful. Our church finance fails, our day and Sabbath-schools suffer, and our new chapel and school-rooms, so much wanted, are all for the present in abeyance, and what is to be the end of all this we cannot foresee. May the Giver of all good in his great mercy shorten these days! We are thankful for any help that we have received, and hope that the small stream which has begun to flow may not be dried up, and that, notwithstanding the many and pressing claims of our Lancashire fellow-sufferers, Hinckley will not be forgotten.

T. G., London, 10*s.*; Gallowtree-gate collection, 18*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.*; Miss Mabba's school, Leicester, 12*l.* 6*d.*; J. S., Derby, 2*s.* 6*d.*; T. C. Dymock, Evington parsonage, 5*s.*; Mr. W. Whinfield, Newcastle-on-Tyne, one parcel of clothes; Market Harborough, Mr. Nunneley's servant, 10*s.*; Mr. Henry Hackett, 10*s.*

I am, Sir, yours truly,

JOHN JAMES.

Stookwell parsonage, Hinckley, Leicestershire,
March 16, 1863.

The materials for the bonfire at Aldershot at the recent marriage rejoicings were built up as a cone, with a circumference at the base of 180 feet and a height of 50 feet. It contained upwards of 42,000 cubic feet.

THE AMERICAN QUESTION.—A public meeting, convened by the committee of the Sheffield Emancipation Society, was held in the Temperance Hall, on Wednesday night, the Master Cutler (Henry Harrison, Esq.) in the chair. The meeting was addressed by the Rev. W. E. Haley, late of General Burnside's army; Mr. John Urvin, and the Hon. and Rev. Baptist Noel. Similar meetings having been held at Woolwich and Blackburn. Mr. Bright has promised to take the chair next Thursday evening at a meeting of Trade Unionists, at St. James's Hall, "in favour of the Northern States of America and Negro Emancipation."

* Six pounds of this amount have been sent to Earl Shilton.

Parliamentary Proceedings.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

On Thursday, the Union Relief Aid Act Continuance Bill was read a third time and passed.

CITY OF LONDON POLICE.

Lord DALHOUSIE, in asking whether the Government intended to take any steps to consolidate the Metropolitan and City Police, particularly dwelt on the shortcomings of the City Police on the occasion of the recent Royal procession, and strongly urged the propriety of amalgamating the City and Metropolitan Police services as the only means of preventing the recurrence of such scenes.

Lord GRANVILLE stated that the Home Secretary had written to the Lord Mayor in reference to the matter, but no answer had been received. Means had been employed, however, to gain the required information, but until it was obtained it was impossible to foretell what course the Government would pursue.

The Duke of CAMBRIDGE explained the steps he had taken to induce the City authorities to accept a military force for preserving order on the occasion of the entry of the Princess Alexandra into the City. He contended that the Metropolitan and City forces should be amalgamated, and under the control of one instead of two authorities. Having spoken very highly of the services of the Metropolitan force, he concluded by alluding to the employment of volunteers in keeping order in a crowd, and deprecated any such employment.

Lord TAUNTON and Lord OVERSTONE urged the necessity of amalgamating the City and Metropolitan police forces.

Their Lordships adjourned at twenty-five minutes past six p.m.

On Friday, the Consolidated Fund (10,000,000*l.*) Bill was read a second time. Their Lordships adjourned at a quarter past five o'clock.

RECOGNITION OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES.

On Monday, Lord STRATHEDEN called attention to the question of acknowledging the Southern Confederacy as an independent power, and strongly pressed the justice, if not the necessity, of the adoption of such a policy by this country.

Lord RUSSELL said that if there were anything which could be justly done to end the war in America, there was not a single person in the country who would not be but too glad to do it. Unfortunately, there was nothing we could do usefully or peacefully to attain that object. It was not by offering our good offices or mediation that this war was at present likely to be concluded. The refusal with which the late proposition of France had been met showed that such offers would not only not be attended to, but would provoke greater opposition on the part of the United States. He denied that the example adduced by Lord Campbell of the recognition of the United States was applicable to the case in point, for what was cited as recognition by France was nothing less than forcible intervention. As to the case of the South American Republics, he showed that the soil of those Republics was free from hostile troops at the period of their recognition, which was not yet the condition of the Confederate States.

We find some of those provinces which were the first to proclaim their independence—a great part of Louisiana, New Orleans, and the banks of the Mississippi, occupied by the Federal armies. There are very considerable Federal armies menacing cities of the Confederation, such as Charleston and Savannah. So that no man can say it is a case of hopeless war. For my own part, and speaking according to my own limited vision, I do not believe those efforts of the Federals will be successful. But no man can say that the war is finally over, or that the independence of the Southern States is established. (Hear, hear.) Well, then, what is the present state of the case? Although great efforts have been made in vain, the great Federal Republic seems unwilling to accept the decision of events. So far from it, we find the last acts of the Congress which has just expired are to place, by conscription, every man fit to carry arms at the disposal of the President of the United States, and to vote sums of money amounting to no less than 180,000,000*l.* sterling for the purpose of carrying on the war. Well, then, in this state of affairs I should say that, looking to the question of right it would not be a friendly act towards the United States, it would not be to fulfil our obligations to a country with which we have long maintained relations of peace and amity—a great country which says it can still carry the war—it would, I say, be a failure of friendship on our part if at this moment we were to interpose and recognise the Southern States.

At present our duty was to wait and stand still, and not to proceed to so decided and unfriendly an act as recognising the South. We had, it was true, interfered in former times in Holland, in Portugal, and Greece.

In all these instances, whether the intervention was carried on by our ancestors or in our own times, there is nothing of which an Englishman need be ashamed. (Hear, hear.) If we have taken part in interventions, it has been in behalf of the independence, freedom, and welfare of a great portion of mankind. I should be sorry, indeed, if there should be any intervention on the part of this country which could bear another character. (Cheers.) I trust that this will not be the case, and that no interests, deeply as they may affect us—interests which imply the well-being of a great portion of our people, but interests which may affect also the freedom and happiness of other parts of the globe—will induce us to set an example different from that of our ancestors, but that when we are bound to interfere it will be an interference in the cause of liberty and to promote the freedom of mankind, as we have hitherto done in such cases. (Hear.)

His lordship concluded:—

Depend upon it, my lords, that if that war is to cease,

it is far better it should cease by a conviction, both on the part of the North and the South, that they can never live again happily as one community and one republic, and that the termination of hostilities can never be brought about by the advice, the mediation, or the interference of any European Power. (Cheers.)

After some routine business, the House adjourned at half-past eight o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

On Wednesday, Mr. BRADY, in moving the second reading of the Diseases Prevention (Metropolis) Bill, pointed out the great injury done to the public health by the present mode of conveying persons affected with contagious and infectious diseases to hospitals in public carriages, and urged that, as the existing law was inoperative, there was a necessity for further legislation on the subject. After some discussion, Sir G. GREY said he could not see that the bill could be so altered in committee as to effect the object in view, and, after advertising to some of the provisions of the bill, recommended Mr. Brady to withdraw or postpone it. After some further discussion, the motion for the second reading was withdrawn.

The Consolidated Fund Bill was read a third time and passed.

The House adjourned at twenty minutes past one o'clock.

On Thursday, in answer to Mr. Longfield, Mr. LAYARD said that since the breaking out of the civil war in America, all communications between her Majesty's Government and that of the United States on the subject of the island of San Juan had been suspended.

In reply to Mr. Addington, Lord CLARENCE PAGET said that the officers of her Majesty's navy who had been allowed to serve under the Chinese Government were not entitled to wear her Majesty's uniform. They were granted leave of absence on half pay, and under the order in Council were allowed to enter the Chinese service. In reply to a further question, Lord C. PAGET said the officers were not entitled to wear her Majesty's uniform, but he was informed that the Emperor of China had adopted it in his service. (Laughter.)

THE TOBACCO DUTIES.

On the motion for going into committee on the Tobacco Duties Bill, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER appealed to Mr. Ayrton, who had given notice of a motion to refer the bill to a select committee, not to press that motion, on the ground that it was without precedent to submit a financial question to a select committee, thus taking the responsibility from the Minister of Finance. Mr. AYRTON controverted the arguments against going into a select committee, urging that the propositions of the Chancellor of the Exchequer on the tobacco-duties had been changed more than once, an acknowledgment of error and want of information which justified an inquiry. He moved his amendment. On a division it was lost by 170 to 87.

The House then went into committee. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER explained some minor alterations he proposed to make in the bill. A series of conversational remarks on the details of the measure ensued between the right hon. gentleman and Mr. Ayrton. The clauses were agreed to, and the House resumed.

CORRUPT PRACTICES AT ELECTIONS.

The House then, in committee, resumed the consideration of the clauses of the Corrupt Practices at Elections Bill.

An alteration, proposed by Sir G. GREY, in the wording of the eighth clause, giving protection to a witness required by a committee or commissioners to answer a question or questions that might tend to criminate him, was agreed to, after a short debate.

The remaining clauses in the bill were likewise agreed to.

Various new clauses, of which notice had been given, were discussed, none of them being adopted, except a clause moved by Mr. Puller, rendering any person convicted of bribery, treating, or undue influence at an election, or against whom judgment shall have been obtained for any penal sum recoverable under the Corrupt Practices Prevention Acts in respect of any such offence, incapable of being elected or sitting in Parliament for five years; and a clause moved by Mr. Hunt, providing for the payment of the costs of commissions of inquiry by the county, borough, or place where the commission was held to inquire into the extensive prevalence of bribery, treating, or other corrupt practices at an election, in cases where the commissioners shall have reported that such practices did extensively prevail.

The House then went into committee upon the Telegraphs Bill; but only a few of the clauses were gone through when the chairman was ordered to report progress.

The Marine Mutiny Bill was read a second time, and the Mutiny Bill passed through the committee.

Mr. HURT moved for a select committee to inquire into the operation of the Acts relating to the Conservancy of the River Thames, to the buoyage, beaconage, and ballastage of that river, and to the regulation of vessels navigating or plying on the river. The motion was agreed to.

Leave was given to bring in certain bills, and the House adjourned at ten minutes to one o'clock.

DISTRESS IN THE COTTON DISTRICTS.

In reply to Mr. Ferrand, Lord PALMERSTON said he should be glad, as soon as possible after Easter, to afford facilities for the consideration of the present state of the cotton trade, and the condition of the operatives of the manufacturing districts.

EXPERIMENTS AT SHOEBURYNES.

Sir J. PAKINGTON asked whether the experiments at Shoeburyness, which showed that the shells set

fire to the wooden backing of the target, would cause the Government not to persevere in building the five new wooden ships which they proposed. Lord C. PAGET answered that he could not give the result of the experiments at Shoeburyness until the targets had been carefully examined. Sir J. PARKINSON reminded him that this was no answer to his question; whereupon his lordship said the experiments would not alter the determination of the Admiralty to build more wooden ships. This announcement was received with great astonishment, expressed by various and general exclamations.

A POLISH REFUGEE.

Mr. HENNESSY asked whether any communication had passed with the Russian Government as to a Polish refugee named Abicht. Lord PALMERSTON said none had passed. The Acting-Consul at Warsaw had informed the Government of the arrest of Abicht, who it seemed was in possession of a British Foreign Office passport, made out in the name of Brett. Inquiries were made at the Foreign Office, and it was found that in July, 1861, an application had been made by Mr. Leverton, of St. Helen's, in the city, for a passport for his confidential clerk, Mr. Brett. The passport was granted. Inquiries had been made of Mr. Leverton as to the reason why the passport had been found in other hands, and he referred the Foreign Office to Mr. Brett. Mr. Brett was then written to, but had never replied to the letter.

In reply to Mr. Hennessey, Sir G. GREY repeated that he did not know the name of the gentleman with whom the policemen who were sent to Warsaw were to put themselves in communication. The Russian Government, he said, paid the expenses of the policemen on their visit, and he had no doubt gave them a gratuity besides.

THE GALWAY SUBSIDY.

Mr. BAXTER rose to move the following resolutions:—

1. That in cases where ordinary traffic supports several lines of steamers, the present system of granting subsidies for carrying the trans-oceanic mail ought to be dispensed with.
2. That this House is not prepared to grant a sum of money to the Atlantic Royal Mail Company for conveying the mails between Galway and North America.

He pointed out what he considered to be the injurious effects of the system of subsidising, which, he said, had been permitted to go too far. The first resolution would strengthen the hands of any Government in economising expenditure; and, with regard to the second resolution, he opposed the Galway contract, because every shilling granted would be thrown away; and he opposed it likewise on account of the origin of the contract, which he characterised as a political job. He entered with some fullness into the history of the Atlantic Company, which had some rather amusing features, and of its contract with Lord Derby's Government, contending that, from the condition of the company, it could render no possible good to Ireland, nor adequately fulfil the conditions of a contract which ought to be the subject of open competition. If it was wrong in the late Government to enter into this contract with an unknown company, the present Government were, he said, more blameable in renewing it. In conclusion, he moved only the second resolution, being prevented from moving the first by a point of form.

Mr. HORSFALL seconded, and Mr. GREGORY opposed the resolution, which was supported by Mr. G. W. P. Bentinck, who said that, in his opinion, there never had been and never would be a Government that would not job, confessed he had never doubted that the Galway contract was a job,—in this sense, that it was an indiscreet expenditure of the public money for the purpose of making political capital. But if it was a job in the first instance, it was much worse in the second.

Mr. WHITESIDE defended the original grant to the Galway Company, and opposed the motion.

Lord PALMERSTON observed that Mr. Baxter had launched a charge very easily made, that the Government in adopting the Galway contract had committed, or attempted to commit, a political job, in the hope of thereby obtaining the support of Irish members. Experience had shown that, if the Government had calculated upon such support, at all events, they had been woefully deceived and disappointed. But he called upon Mr. Baxter to raise his views a little higher, and imagine that the Government might be influenced by legitimate public considerations of national advantage and welfare, and that in recommending the House to confirm this contract they might be guided by a desire to promote the interests of Ireland. This was, in fact, one of the grounds which had induced the Government to deem it to be their duty to adopt the contract. Another consideration was, that the faith of the Government and the faith of the House had been pledged; and the resolution called upon the Government to do what would be an act of great cruelty to the company, and perhaps ruin them. If the company made good their engagements, he thought that a regard for good faith required that the House should not sanction the course suggested by the motion.

After a few remarks by General Upton, the House divided, when the resolution was negatived by 109 to 46.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Mr. DAWSON called attention to the present position of the General Marriage Law in Ireland, and appealed to the Government to undertake a revision of the law, suggesting the main conditions which would be essential to a satisfactory settlement of the question.

Various vexatious restrictions were imposed on the

clergy both of the Established and Presbyterian Churches, at which they felt much aggrieved. The prohibition against the celebration of mixed marriages by Roman Catholic priests was also a source of general complaint. (Hear.) But the chief sufferers from the operation of the present Act were the Wesleyans, Independents, Baptists, and other Protestant Nonconformists, who, through their ministers, were at once degraded and oppressed. He was aware that their disabilities formed the subject of a bill which had been introduced by the hon. member for Dublin, but still he thought the matter should be treated in a more comprehensive manner. Numerous reasons could be adduced why there should be one marriage law for England, Ireland, and Scotland, and therefore he should like to see the subject taken up by the executive Government. (Hear, hear.) If he were obliged, however, to confine himself to the case of Ireland, he should say that to produce a marriage law satisfactory to the people, it would be necessary in all cases that proper notice should be given, so that all parties interested might have an opportunity of examining the attendant circumstances; that all religious denominations should possess the power of celebrating marriages according to their own conscientious forms; and, lastly, that there should be a plain and trustworthy registration conducted mainly by lay agency, and similar in all respects to the successful system established in Scotland by an Act passed in 1854.

Mr. LYALL called attention to the military expenditure for Ceylon, and asked what steps had been taken to reduce the annual charge of 100,000*l.* on the Imperial Exchequer for the troops in that island. Mr. C. FORTESCUE stated the views and intentions of the Government in relation to Ceylon finance, the whole subject of which, he observed, had undergone a careful consideration.

Mr. WHITESIDE called attention to the circumstances connected with the assassination of Mr. Braddell in July last in the town of Tipperary, and asked for an explanation of the conduct of the police, and of the course taken by the Government in reference to that transaction, the criminal having escaped.

Sir R. PEEL said everything had been done that could be done to bring the actor in that awful tragedy to justice. He did not think the police were to blame. In answer to Mr. Dawson, he alluded to the great difficulties in the way of dealing in a single bill with so complex a subject as the law of marriage in Ireland, which the Government would take up if they thought there were any prospect of succeeding.

ARMY ESTIMATES.

The House went into committee, and resumed the consideration of the army estimates, commencing with the vote of 321,884*l.* for the Volunteer corps. Sir G. LEWIS, in moving the vote, observed that this was an increase of 198,996*l.* above the vote of last year, in compliance with a recommendation in the report of the Royal Commission. Lord LOVINE moved that the vote be diminished by 154,576*l.*, the amount of the capitulation grants; but, after a short discussion, he withdrew the motion, and the vote was agreed to.

On the vote of 956,365*l.* for manufacturing departments and materials for warlike stores, which Sir G. LEWIS prefaced by an explanation, Sir H. WILLOUGHBY called attention to the policy of gradually reducing the cost of the manufacturing establishments, and moved a reduction on the first item, 35,871*l.*, the charge for establishments, of 2,000*l.* Before the discussion of this vote closed, the chairman was ordered to report progress.

The remaining orders having been gone through, the House adjourned at half-past twelve o'clock.

NEUTRAL RIGHTS.

On Monday, Mr. S. FITZGERALD asked if her Majesty's Government had accepted, or were prepared to accept, the proposal made by President Lincoln to establish a convention between this country and the Government of the United States, to examine and adjust complaints of the violation of neutral rights.

Viscount PALMERSTON said that communications had passed between the two Governments. Her Majesty's Government had no objection to the proposed arrangement, but difficulties had arisen with regard to its details. Those difficulties had not yet been removed, but he was not without hope that the two Governments might ultimately come to an understanding upon the subject.

THE BUDGET.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER gave notice that he would bring forward his financial statement on the 16th April.

POLAND.

On going into a committee of supply, Mr. HENNESSY drew attention to the affairs of Poland, arguing that it was not to be taken that the defeat of Langiewicz was tantamount to a suppression of the insurrection, the area of which had largely increased, while the number of persons who were really routed on that occasion was comparatively small. Numerous bands of insurgents all over the country were operating against the Russians, and the adherents of the national cause now embraced many of the influential and wealthy inhabitants of Poland. He was not disheartened at what occurred, and he contended that the House having decided on a recent occasion that England had a moral right to interfere, under the treaty of Vienna, there was a moral obligation to do so, by diplomatic action and in concert with other powers.

Lord PALMERSTON declined to go into any discussion as to the position and prospects of the insurrection in Poland. When the honourable gentleman spoke on a former occasion on the subject of Poland, he understood him to argue that there was an obligation on England to go to war to maintain the stipulations of the treaty of Vienna; and to that he did not and could not assent. Now, however, the honourable gentleman changed his ground, and

argued only for a moral interference; that was by friendly representations to press on Russia the fulfilment of the treaty. In that sense he accepted the obligation, and it had been and was in course of being fulfilled.

THE CHINESE DRILLED TROOPS.

Colonel SYKES asked whether the statement of General Burgevine respecting the causes of the late mutiny of the Chinese drilled troops, published in the *Friend of China* of the 17th January, 1863, had been received at the Foreign-office, together with the protest of all his officers, forty-five in number, against the attempt by the Chinese authorities to obtain his head by the offer of 50,000 taels, or for his secret apprehension, and threatening to resign if he was murdered, his offence being that he took money from the Chinese authorities to pay his men, who were in a state of dangerous mutiny on account of their pay being kept back.

Mr. LAYARD said that it was only that morning that the Foreign-office had received a copy of the *Friend of China* containing the statement alluded to, but no official account of the matter had yet been received.

THE ARMY ESTIMATES.

The House then went into committee on the army estimates.

A discussion ensued on the vote for land and sea stores, 838,369*l.* Sir H. WILLOUGHBY moved the reduction of the vote by 2,000*l.*—the amount of the salary of Sir W. Armstrong when he was superintendent of gun-factories. Sir G. C. LEWIS stated that the sum would be applied to a new system of inspection of the manufacture of guns. After a debate, on a division the amendment was lost by 94 to 45.

On the vote for fortifications, Mr. BAXTER moved the reduction of the sum by 10,000*l.*, in reference to the fortifications of self-governed colonies; on which a discussion ensued, which ended in a division, in which the amendment was lost by 75 to 43. The whole of the remaining votes were agreed to, and the House resumed.

In committee on the Marine Mutiny Bill, Mr. WHITE moved the omission of the 28th clause (authorising the infliction of corporal punishment), but was defeated by 86 to 31. A subsequent motion by Mr. COX, to strike out the branding clause, was rejected by 97 to 22.

The Mutiny Bill was read a third time and passed. The other orders of the day were disposed of, and the House adjourned.

THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

The Confederate General Van Dorn appeared, at the head of a large force, at Springville, about twenty-five miles south of Nashville, Tennessee, on the 5th inst. He attacked and totally routed an inferior force of Federals, commanded by Colonel Coburn. Three regiments of infantry were cut to pieces or captured; one regiment of cavalry escaped. The Federal General Gilbert was at Franklin, twelve miles distant, but was unable to render assistance.

A large meeting has been held in New York, presided over by the mayor. Union resolutions were adopted, and a committee appointed to form a loyal Union league of New York citizens. Resolutions were also passed denouncing mediation as unfriendly. Mr. John Van Buren urged the vigorous prosecution of the war until the rebellion was overthrown, and approved the Act of Congress giving the President the control over the finances and the militia. Several other Democrats spoke in favour of the war.

It is rumoured that the Federal commander at Baton Rouge refused to recognise the negro regiments. General Banks has issued orders that negro troops are to be regarded as equals with the white troops.

The Kentucky House of Representatives has passed a resolution calling a National Convention and a convention of the Mississippi Valley States. It is supposed the Senate would concur in the resolution.

The report of an attempt to assassinate General Banks, at New Orleans, is said to have been a canard.

A Secession demonstration occurred at New Orleans on the occasion of the departure of a large number of Confederate prisoners for the South. A large number of people assembled on the levee to witness their departure, and made various secession demonstrations. General Banks sent a regiment of soldiers to disperse the assemblage, and no disturbance occurred.

All the General Appropriation Bills were passed by Congress before the close of the session, and have been signed by the President. These, together with other appropriations, amount to about 1,000,000,000*l.* The Miscellaneous Appropriation Bill, originally introduced by the Committee of Ways and Means, appropriated only 1,200,000*l.*, but before it passed through both Houses the sum was enlarged to 20,000,000*l.* The bill to admit Colorado and Nevada as States of the Union, which passed the Senate, failed to pass in the House of Representatives, the latter refusing to suspend the rules for its consideration.

Speaker Grow, in his valedictory address to the House of Representatives, declared that no matter what changes were wrought in the social organism of America, its territorial limits would continue the same. The war must be prosecuted until the last armed rebel is subdued. The Speaker received a unanimous vote of thanks from the House—a compliment which was never paid to any Speaker but once before.

Both Houses of Congress passed the resolutions concerning mediation, as reported from the Committee of Foreign Relations.

An influential meeting has been held at New York to forward the laying of the Atlantic cable. A committee was appointed to act, and five gentlemen have subscribed over 3,000*l.* to assist the enterprise. (Per African.)

NEW YORK, March 10 (Evening).

Federal gunboats are reported to have passed through the channel from the Mississippi into Lake Providence, and to be doing considerable destruction. It was thought that the Confederate transports would come out of White River and offer battle. One Federal gunboat is said to have reached Yazoo City through Yazoo Pass. The Federal commander, Porter, has proclaimed that all parties caught firing upon unarmed vessels, burning cotton, or levying contributions, should be hanged.

The Confederate General Stephenson officially reports that the steamer *Indianola* was not destroyed, but was being raised. One gun had burst, but the others were uninjured.

On the 7th instant the Federal cavalry attacked the Confederates at Unionville, ten miles from Murfreesborough, Tennessee, capturing their camp equipment and a number of prisoners.

A collision between the military and the citizens at Utah is imminent. The Governor of Utah and his associate justices ordered the military to arrest Brigham Young and Councillors Kimball and Wells. The citizens are armed, and determined to resist the arrest of their leaders.

A movement has been made by the Government to make General Butler Provost-Marshal, under the Conscription Act.

Resolutions have been introduced into the Confederate Senate, to inquire into the expediency of repealing the resolution declaring that a neutral flag covers enemy's goods with the exception of contraband of war.

NEW YORK, March 11 (Morning).

Van Dorn's forces in Tennessee are reported to have retreated South.

President Lincoln has issued a proclamation declaring that absent soldiers who return to their commands before the 1st of April will be reinstated; but that those who do not will be arrested and treated as deserters. He warns the people against enticing soldiers to desert, and calls upon them to assist in preventing desertions.

Several persons who had left New Orleans for the South, as registered enemies of the Union, have returned to New Orleans in a starving condition.

The *New York Tribune* asserts that the Federals were expecting to be attacked at Baton Rouge.

Mr. Slidell's property has been confiscated in New Orleans.

The three Republican members are reported to be elected in New Hampshire. The Legislature will also be largely Republican. No governor has been elected, as there were three candidates, and neither had a legal majority: consequently, a governor will be appointed by the Legislature, which being Republican, will appoint a Republican candidate.

The committee of the New York Chamber of Commerce has had an interview with the President, urging him to issue forthwith letters of marque.

(From the *Times* Correspondent.)

NEW YORK, March 10.

General Grant's army before Vicksburg is greatly reduced by sickness. An agent of the Sanitary Commission states that nearly every tent is a hospital, that on the 26th ult. the number of sick was 12,000, of whom a large number were dying daily, and that altogether there were not more than 20,000 men fit for duty.

A body of Confederate cavalry made a sudden descent upon Fairfax Court-house, within the Federal lines, on the 10th, and succeeded in carrying off General Stoughton, Provost-Marshal Oscanner, from 50 to 100 prisoners, and 110 horses.

The bill authorising the issue of letters of marque, which passed Congress on the last day of the Session, has received the signature of the President.

Mr. Vallandigham, of Ohio, addressed the Democracy of this city on Saturday evening. He expressed his belief that the Union would ultimately be restored, but denied emphatically that it would be restored by violence. Mr. Pendleton, also of Ohio, addressed the same association on the following evening in a similar spirit.

All the British vessels in this port, to the number of nearly 100, were decorated with flags on the 10th in honour of the marriage of the Prince of Wales; the steamers of the Cunard and Inman line of packets fired Royal salutes.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE COST OF WAR.—According to an American publication it is estimated that from the commencement of the war 43,874 Federals have been killed, 97,029 wounded, 68,218 made prisoners, and 250,000 died from disease and wounds; that 20,893 Confederates have been killed, 59,616 wounded, 22,169 made prisoners, and 120,000 died from disease and wounds.

A NEW STATE.—Arizona, which has become one of the United States, is 30,000 square miles in extent, and was purchased from Mexico for 10,000,000 dollars. It is contiguous to the Mexican States of Chihuahua and Sonora. The present menacing schemes of the French in Mexico have had the effect of accelerating the admission of Arizona into the Union.—*New York Tribune*.

THE NEGRO DIFFICULTY.—A riot has occurred at Detroit, Michigan, caused by an attempt of the mob to take and lynch a negro charged with assaulting a

white girl. The mob failed to capture the negro, but many unoffending coloured men were murdered, 32 negro houses were burnt or otherwise destroyed, and 200 people rendered homeless. The presence of a strong military force prevented a renewal of the outbreak. The *New York Tribune*, referring to General Banks' arrangements with planters for negro labour, says:—"The military authorities of the Gulf who were charged to recognise and maintain the freedom of the blacks have gone into the business of slave-driving on the largest possible scale, and officers who went to suppress a slaveholders' rebellion are made overseers of plantations, which Government stocks with re-enslaved blacks." The *Tribune* charges General Banks with administering his department entirely in the interest of the slave-owners, and denounces his course as an oppression of the negro.

WHAT THE SOUTH THINKS OF FREEDOM.—This is what the *Muscogee Herald* says about "free society":—

We sicken at the name. What is it but a conglomeration of greasy mechanics, filthy operatives, small-fisted farmers, and moonstruck theorists? All the Northern, and especially the New England States, are devoid of society fitted for well-bred gentlemen. The prevailing class one meets with is that of mechanics struggling to be genteel, and small farmers who do their own drudgery, and yet are hardly fit for association with a Southern gentleman's body servant. This is your free society.

"Repeatedly," says the *Richmond Enquirer*—discussing the same subject:—

"Have we asked the North: Has not the experiment of universal liberty failed? Are not the evils of free society insufferable? Still no answer. Their universal silence is a conclusive proof, added to many others we have furnished, that free society, in the long run, is an impracticable form of society; it is everywhere starving, demoralised, and insurrectionary. Policy and humanity alike forbid the extension of the evils of free society to new people and coming generations."

"Free society" means a society in which nobody owns anybody else. The same journal goes on to say:—

Until recently the apologists for slavery took half-way grounds. They confined the defence of slavery to negro slavery, thereby giving up the slavery principle, admitting other forms of slavery to be wrong. . . . The South now maintains that slavery is right, natural, and necessary. While it is far more obvious that negroes shall be slaves than whites—for they are only fit to labour, not to direct—yet the principle of slavery is itself right, and does not depend on differences of complexion.

The *Southside Democrat*, another Virginian paper, chimes in with the above expression of opinion from the *Enquirer* in the following fashion:—

We have got to hating everything with the prefix "free," from free negroes up and down through the whole catalogue—free farms, free labour, free society, free will, free thinking, and free schools. But the worst of all these abominations is the modern system of free schools.

The *Southside Democrat* then goes on to discuss what is to be done with poor people who are not able to educate their children out of their own pockets, and here is his plan:—

Let our Legislature pass a law that whoever will take these parents, and take care of them and their offspring, in sickness and in health, clothe them, feed them, and house them, shall be legally entitled to their services.

Mr. Fitzhugh, a Virginian planter, who has written a book showing up "free society," supports this scheme on Scriptural grounds. He says:—

The Jewish slaves were not negroes, and to confine the justification of slavery to that race would be to weaken the Scriptural authority, and to lose the whole weight of profane authority; for we read of no negro slavery in ancient times. Slavery, black or white, is right and necessary.

PROSPECTS OF THE NEXT CONGRESS.—In the elections yet to be held thirty-nine representatives (including North Carolina, Louisiana and Virginia) are to be chosen, as follows:—

California	8	New Hampshire	3
Connecticut	4	North Carolina	2
Kentucky	10	Rhode Island	2
Louisiana	2	Vermont	3
Maryland	5	Virginia (new and old) ..	5

It is impossible, of course, to predict precisely the result in these several States, but it can be so nearly estimated as to leave very little doubt as to the general bearing of the elections upon the complexion of the House. With seventy-six Administrationists already elected, and (not counting with us any elected as war democrats) the Union members (at least twenty-five) almost certain to be chosen in the coming elections, a majority, in a House of less than one hundred and ninety members, is secured, as it seems to us, beyond all contingencies. The new Senate will be quite as decidedly Administrationist as any one could desire. The Republicans will have twenty-nine members, the Democrats nine, and the Unionists nine, among the latter of whom are included Sprague of Rhode Island, Hicks of Maryland, Conness of California, and Bowden of West Virginia—all of whom are certain to act with the Administration, and a great deal more likely to vote with the Republicans on matters of policy than with the Opposition.—*New York Evening Post*.

THE SPOILS OF THE ALABAMA.—The captains and crews of the *Golden Eagle*, *Olive*, *Jane*, and *Palmetto* ships, burnt at sea by the *Alabama*, were landed on Friday morning at Southampton, from the American ship *Washington*.

VESSELS OF WAR FOR THE CONFEDERATES.—In one of the published despatches in reply to Mr. Adams, Earl Russell, after admitting that strict orders were given for the detention of the *Alabama* as soon as it appeared to the legal advisers of the

Crown that the evidence might be sufficient to warrant them in advising such a course, and that she contrived to evade the execution of those orders, goes on to say:—

As regards your demand for more effective prevention for the future of the fitting out of such vessels in British ports, I have the honour to inform you that her Majesty's Government, after consultation with the law officers of the Crown, are of opinion that certain amendments might be introduced into the Foreign Enlistment Act, which, if sanctioned by Parliament, would have the effect of giving greater power to the Executive to prevent the construction, in British ports, of ships destined for the use of belligerents. But her Majesty's Government consider that, before submitting any proposals of that sort to Parliament, it would be desirable that they should previously communicate with the Government of the United States, and ascertain whether that Government is willing to make similar alterations in its own Foreign Enlistment Act, and that the amendments, like the original statute, should, as it were, proceed *pari passu* in both countries. I shall accordingly be ready to confer at any time with you, and to listen to any suggestions which you may have to make by which the British Foreign Enlistment Act and the corresponding statute of the United States may be made more efficient for their purpose.

A PANIC ON THE NEW YORK EXCHANGE.—The news of the passage of the act of Congress taxing the sales came upon all the speculators on Monday like a thunderclap. On the Wednesday, the day of the adjournment, there was a fall of 6 per cent. On the Thursday, however, the alarm degenerated into a panic, and the scenes witnessed in Wall-street and its vicinity were such as I venture to say were never enacted in any other country either in peace or war. About ten o'clock crowds were seen pouring from every part of the city to the brokers and bullion dealers' offices, and in an hour the side-walks in all the streets adjoining Wall-street were blocked, in spite of the exertions of the police to keep them clear. Extending from the door of every broker and banker on either side was a long queue, such as may be seen at the entrance to a Paris theatre on a night of extraordinary attraction, composed of men in every walk of life, from the retired merchant or comfortable annuitant down to the small huckster or Jew clothesman, all laden with gold—some in bags, some in pocket-books, some in boxes, and some in stockings, and all burning to get rid of it, and struggling, pushing, and jostling, hot, pale, and eager in their efforts to approach the counter. Their excitement was kept up at fever heat by the reports, brought by each person who came out after having disposed of his "pile," of the continued and rapid fall in the price. It started in the morning at 165; in an hour it was down to 160, and "159," "158," "157," as the words flew from mouth to mouth, sent a visible thrill through the compact masses of the gold-sellers, which made them vibrate from front to rear and flank to flank. Sounds of despair began to be heard in every direction as the fall reached 156 and 155, and the efforts to get into the offices became more frantic and more violent. The faces which were most contorted by anxiety were unquestionably Jewish, and it must be admitted that that persuasion contributed a much larger proportion to the crowd than its numerical relation to the rest of the community would fully justify. And the effect of the whole scene was greatly heightened by the extremely dilapidated appearance of a large number of the persons who were loudest and fiercest in their struggles to get rid of their gold. The fall continued, and the excitement became more intense, until 151 was reached; but by this time, what with the physical exhaustion of the sellers or the would-be sellers, and the recovery of a large number of the less nervous holders from the panic of the morning, increased firmness began to manifest itself in the afternoon, and at the close of the business day it had again risen to 154. The appearance of the streets during the earlier part of the day would have fairly justified a looker-on who knew nothing of the facts in supposing that an army of Maharrattas were within two miles of the city, and that the object of the rush was to draw gold, in order to fly with it or secrete it, instead of getting rid of it in exchange for the much-abused "greenbacks." I have never seen anything approaching to it in singularity, except the run on the banks in the panic of 1857.—*Daily News' correspondent*.

Court, Official, and Personal News.

Wednesday was the birthday of the Princess Louisa, and for the first time since the death of the lamented Prince Consort the church bells of Windsor rang in token of rejoicing for a Royal anniversary.

By command of the Queen, an evening party was given in St. James's Palace on Friday evening in honour of the Prince and Princess of Wales. Their Royal Highnesses, attended by a brilliant suite, arrived from Buckingham Palace at twenty-five minutes before ten o'clock, and were received by the Lord Chamberlain, the Lord Steward, the Master of the Horse, and by the Groom of the Stole to the Prince of Wales. The invitations were issued by the Lord Chamberlain of her Majesty's Household. The company comprised the Royal Family, the Danish Royal Family, and Foreign Princes now staying in this country, together with the whole of the Foreign Ministers, the Ministers of the Crown, and the great officers of State, with their wives and daughters, a number of the ladies and gentlemen of the royal household, and a large party of nobility and gentry. The Princess of Wales wore a dress of white silver moire, covered with a dress of Brussels lace. Diadem of diamonds. The Duchess of Cambridge wore a dark violet satin dress, with bouillonés of satin and black

lace, covered with a tunic of Brussels lace. Tiara of diamonds and pearls and white feathers. The necklace, stomacher, and earrings were diamonds and pearls. The Princess Mary of Cambridge wore a white satin petticoat, trimmed with tulle and bands of violet velvet with silver cord, covered with a tunic of Honiton lace. Tiara of diamonds: necklace, stomacher, and earrings of diamonds. The Princess Christian of Denmark wore a dress of dark blue velvet, trimmed with white blonde. Diadem of diamonds, and necklace of earrings and diamonds. The Princess wore the Grand Cordon of the Order of Catherine of Russia. The Royal party occupied seats at the east end of the room. Her Majesty's private band performed a selection of music during the evening. Refreshments were provided for the company in the Grand Chamber. Supper was served at eleven o'clock, the tables being decorated with some specimens of the Royal plate; and a buffet of gold plate on a crimson ground was displayed at one end of the banquet-room.

It is authoritatively stated that, after the return of the Prince of Wales from Sandringham in April, arrangements will be made (of which due notice will be given) for the presentation to his Royal Highness of addresses from corporations and other public bodies. The presentation of the addresses will be subject to regulations similar to those which are observed on the presentation of addresses to her Majesty at a levee.

On Saturday, the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Prince and Princess Christian of Denmark, and other members of the Danish Royal family, visited the Zoological Gardens. Yesterday, the newly-married couple proceeded to Windsor Castle, and will pay a visit to Sandringham on Friday. On Monday the Prince and Princess of Wales, accompanied by Princess Dagmar and Prince William of Denmark, took a drive in an open carriage in the afternoon, and subsequently the Danish visitors dined with the newly married couple at Buckingham Palace.

On Saturday night Viscountess Palmerston had an assembly at Cambridge-house, Piccadilly. Previously to the reception, Lord and Lady Palmerston entertained a distinguished party at dinner.

Since the marriage of the Prince of Wales the whole of the establishment of his Royal Highness have gone entirely out of mourning. Up to the time of the wedding, they, in common with the household of her Majesty, wore mourning, but it is now completely abandoned.—*Court Journal*.

On the Royal marriage-day ten young English boys, at school in Bonn, sent the following congratulatory wish to Windsor Castle by telegraph:—

Ten loyal English boys in Bonn
Can ne'er restrain their hearts' desire,
To send their future king and queen
Their wishes with their hearts therein,
That beat for them till they expire.

The following answer was transmitted by the same means:—"The Boys at 20, Webberstrasse, Bonn. The Prince and Princess of Wales thank you for your kind message and wishes, and ask for a holiday for you.—Sir CHARLES PHIPPS, Windsor Castle."

Mr. Peabody, the eminent American merchant, who has been at Nice for some time for the benefit of his health, gave a magnificent banquet there on the Prince of Wales's marriage-day; and to this he invited not only all the principal English visitors, but also a large number of French and other foreigners.

It is officially announced that the bridal presents to the Princess of Wales will be exhibited at the South Kensington Museum as soon as the necessary arrangements can be made.

We believe we have pretty good authority for stating that her Majesty intends visiting Balmoral about the middle of May, and remaining there for about three weeks.—*Perthshire Courier*.

Prince Alfred has received his commission as lieutenant. A steamer has been sent to Malta to fetch him home at once.

The report circulated a few days ago that Colonel Wilson Patten was to be elevated to the peerage is contradicted.

Mr. Spooner, M.P. for North Warwickshire, has intimated his intention of retiring from Parliament at the next election.

The Dean of Westminster has assented to a generally-expressed wish that the remains of Sir James Outram should be interred in Westminster Abbey. The funeral takes place to-day.

It is said that Mr. Gladstone, when he brings forward his Budget, promised soon after Easter, will propose a reduction of the duties from 1s. 5d. to 1s. per pound weight.—*Court Journal*.

It is believed that next Friday, the 27th, Parliament will adjourn for the Easter recess till the Monday fortnight following, viz., the 13th of April.

Postscript.

Wednesday, March 25, 1863.

THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

Intelligence has been received from New York, by the City of New York, down to March 14.

The chief news is from the South-West. A report has reached Memphis that a battle has occurred on the Yazoo River, in which the Federals captured 7,000 Confederates and eight transports. The New York press generally credit this report, as it was known that the Federal gunboats were prepared to ascend the Yazoo River. Rumours are current in Cairo, but not generally

credited here, that the Confederates have captured Fort Henry and Donelson.

Large Confederate forces are said to be massed in Tennessee—one to hold General Rosecrans in check, while the others flank him and enter Kentucky, moving direct on Louisville and Cincinnati. General Longstreet did not go to Tennessee, as reported, but has his headquarters at Petersburg, Virginia, and has 18,000 men below that city. Colonel Richardson, with 400 guerrillas, has been captured by the Federals at Covington, Tennessee. Two hundred Federals, with two pieces of artillery, have been captured by the Confederates in Tennessee. General Van Dorn has succeeded in getting away to Shelbyville with the prisoners he lately captured.

Three Federal Monitors have bombarded Fort Macalister during twenty hours. They were struck several times, but not injured. They could not get near enough to the fort to dismantle it on account of the obstructions in the river. The attack will not be renewed. It was reported that the Confederates have several rams at Mobile preparing for an attack on the blockading squadrons.

An early movement of the army of the Potomac is again expected. General Hooker has held a conference with the Cabinet at Washington, and afterwards returned to headquarters. Expeditions have visited all the ferries on the Rappahannock eighty miles below the Federal lines, broke up numerous smuggling nests, and captured a quantity of contraband stores. It is again asserted that large numbers of Confederate troops are being withdrawn from Fredericksburg. The Confederates have armed and uniformed negroes doing picket duty on the Rappahannock.

President Lincoln was expected to call for more troops within ten days.

No attack on Charleston had occurred up the 8th inst., but General Hunter had issued preliminary orders, showing that an attack would soon commence. The difficulties between General Hunter and the officers of General Foster's command at Fort Royal are still unsettled. The chief of General Foster's staff has been ordered North. General Beauregard had revoked all furloughs and recalled all absentees to Charleston.

Two Republican and one Democratic member have been elected to Congress in New Hampshire. No Governor has yet been chosen.

Richmond despatches speak discouragingly of the prospect of supplies of food, and say:—"The improvement of grain by the Government discourages production." The Mobile papers state that the Confederates have much trouble with the Union men in Northern Alabama. One county is said to be full of them, and many deserters are joining them.

The *Chicago Tribune* says there are five hundred clubs of the Union League in the West, and the organization is rapidly extending.

Senator Sumner strongly urges the President to issue letters of marque.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.—Money easy. Gold, 59½ per cent. premium. Exchange on London—Banker's bills, 177½. Stocks quiet.

THE POLISH INSURRECTION.

The following telegrams have been received:—

"CRACOW, March 23 (Evening).—Since this morning there have been indecisive engagements between the Russian troops and the insurgents near Lasy, Miechow, and Igolomia. The chiefs Wisocki, Bentkowski, Schmiedowski, and Roschbrune are in the insurgent camp. The Cossacks have stopped and plundered an Austrian patrol, killing one of the soldiers."

"BRESLAU, March 24.—The *Schlesische Zeitung* of to-day publishes a telegram from Cracow, stating that Langiewicz is not treated as a prisoner in the citadel of that town."

"BRESZOW, March 24.—The insurgents, under the command of Czechowski, were beaten and dispersed the day before yesterday in the vicinity of Lezansk. Bodies of insurgents are making their way to Galicia. Engagements have taken place during the last two days at Krzeszkow and at Potok. The insurgents have been beaten near the forest of Paulow. Three hundred insurgents are encamped on Russian territory."

"POSEN, March 24.—Two engagements have taken place in the Palatinate of Kalisz at Apatuova, in both of which the Poles were completely victorious. Eighty waggons, filled with the Russian wounded, have been taken to Konin. A further engagement has occurred at Makorowo, the result of which has not yet transpired. It is only known that the number of killed and wounded on both sides is large. Two French lieutenants, M.M. Deodat and Collier, are among the wounded."

The Paris papers emphatically deny the statement of Prussia having recently authorized Russian troops to traverse Prussian territory.

Count Thun, the Austrian Ambassador at St. Petersburg, has presented his letters of recall.

YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords, last evening, in reply to Lord Shaftesbury Lord RUSSELL said he had received information of two Polish students having been given up by Prussia to Russia. The French Ambassador had, however, applied for their release, and he believed the request would be granted. Several measures were advanced a stage. In reply to Lord Lyveden, the Duke of ARGYLL said the Government had no intention of introducing a measure for changing the constitution of the Council of India. After some discussion the matter dropped. Some other matters were disposed of, and the House adjourned.

In the House of Commons Mr. BRIGHT presented a petition from the Union and Emancipation Society of Manchester, praying the House to take measures to prevent the building of war ships for the so-called Confederate States. After some discussion, in which the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir F. Baring, and Mr. Hatfield took part, the first part of the motion was agreed to in an amended form. The second part was withdrawn.

Several notices of motion were given. Among them was one by Mr. W. E. FORSTER for Friday night next. He proposes then to call attention to the fitting out of ships in this country for the Confederate States. Mr. SCULLY also gave notice of a motion in reference to the condition of Ireland.

Mr. CAVE brought forward the case of the coolies who were taken to the island of Réunion, and moved for papers concerning them. He stated that he had good information that they received very improper usage, and that, in fact, the trade in them was little better than the slave-trade. Mr. LATARD said it would be inconvenient to give the papers asked for. He added that the English Consul did all in his power to protect the coolies, and that he reported the treatment of them had been better than it was some time ago. The discussion was continued by Sir M. Farquhar, Sir J. Elphinstone, and Mr. H. Seymour. Mr. CAVE, however, withdrew his motion.

Mr. HUBBARD brought forward a motion affirming the true principle of an income-tax to be that the incidence of the tax touching the products of invested property should fall upon net income, and that the net amount of industrial earnings should, previous to assessment, be subject to such an abatement as may equitably adjust the burden thrown upon intelligence and skill as compared with property. Mr. LEATHAM, in an exceedingly able speech, supported the motion. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER opposed it, declaring that the proposal it involved was impracticable, and that even if it could be carried out, while it might remedy some cases of injustice, it would only do so by creating others. On a division the motion was negatived by 118 votes to 70.

Lord ROBERT MONTAGU moved a resolution, affirming, first, that the Appropriation Bill should be printed before it passed through committee; and, secondly, that the bill ought not to contain a clause giving power of transfer from one vote to another.

The House was subsequently engaged with the consideration of the Partnership Law Amendment Bill, which, after strong opposition, was read a second time.

On the report of the Corrupt Practices at Elections Bill, Mr. VANCE moved to omit the 11th clause, and to insert the following:—

Any person who shall be convicted of bribery at any election shall be incapable of being elected or sitting in Parliament at any time during the then existing Parliament.

In the debate which followed, very strong objections were urged against the 11th clause, and ultimately the clause was expunged, and the proposed substitute was withdrawn. Other amendments were made in the bill.

The remaining orders having been disposed of, the House adjourned at one o'clock.

THE RIOTS IN THE NORTH.

At Oldham yesterday 300 special constables were sworn in in expectation of a raid from Staleybridge, but there was no disturbance.

A party of rioters, some 400, again left Staleybridge for Ashton yesterday. They found the authorities, the special constables, and police drawn up across the road. The mob, seeing this stoppage to their progress, threw a shower of stones, whereupon the police were ordered to charge with their staves, and this they did so effectually as to thoroughly disperse the mob, who were driven as far as Tarney Valley, where Captain Elgee, with two divisions of police (sixty men), joined in the pursuit. Thus the rabble was driven back into Staleybridge, whence they came. During the interim a riot broke out in Stamford-street, where windows were smashed and broken open. The police soon dispersed this mob also.

The Hussars were again called out, and are now on duty. The town was last night in a very excited state. Yesterday the Staleybridge operatives, at a public meeting, determined to accept the relief tickets for last week, leaving open the question whether they should be paid half in money and half in tickets. The meeting was very orderly, but few roughs being there; so that, for the present there is little chance of further riot or outrage, as was feared. The rabble in the streets is still great, and much excited.

There has been some rioting at Dukinfield and Hythe by Staleybridge operatives. Stockport is in a state of agitation, but every precaution has been taken. At Wigan some explanations that have passed between the relief committee and a deputation from the operatives have had a good effect; but the extensive distribution in the town of the Rev. J. R. Stephens's inflammatory addresses has caused the operatives to look suspiciously on the recent transfers by the committee to the guardians, and to complain of the not unreasonable demand by the guardians that able-bodied men shall make some attempt to find work.

It is understood that her Majesty has intimated her intention to receive the congratulatory address from the Court of Common Council on the Royal marriage in state on Thursday at Windsor.

Prince and Princess Christian of Denmark and family left England yesterday. They proceeded from the Bricklayers' Arms Station to Dover, where an address was presented to them. At Dover they embarked on board the *Vivid* for Océ.

The Marquis of Hartington was yesterday re-elected without opposition for North Lancashire.

A meeting was held in Manchester yesterday to express sympathy with Poland. The Mayor presided. Mr. Hennessy, M.P., was one of the speakers. The resolutions, which were unanimously carried, condemned most strongly the conduct of Russia in regard to Poland.

Noah Austin was executed yesterday at Oxford for the murder of James Allen. The criminal made a full confession of his guilt.

THE CONFEDERATE LOAN.—Encouraged by the success which has attended the loan of £3,000,000, it is, we understand, intended by the Confederate Government shortly to issue proposals for a loan of twenty millions sterling, also based upon the security of cotton, for delivery on the same terms as that just concluded.—*Morning Star*.

MARK LANE.—THIS DAY.

But few samples of English wheat were received fresh up to this morning's market. S-lotted parcels were mostly disposed of, at Monday's quotations; otherwise, the trade ruled heavy, at drooping currencies. The supply of foreign wheat was large. In all descriptions, sales progressed slowly, at barely stationary prices. Floating cargoes of grain were in slow request, on former terms. Barley, with which the markets was moderately supplied, moved off slowly, at fully the late decline in its value. In malt, a limited business was transacted, yet prices were supported. Sweet oatmeal a steady sale, at full quotations; but other kinds sold heavily at quite the late reduction in the currency.

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The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 1863.

SUMMARY.

THERE is reason to hope that the excitement which still prevails in the cotton districts of Lancashire will stop short of further breaches of the peace, notwithstanding the wide circulation of the inflammatory appeals of the R.-v. J. B. Stephens. Yesterday, detachments of the Staleybridge roughs visited several of the neighbouring towns to stir up strife, and were summarily driven back from Ashton. Simultaneously, the real operatives of Staleybridge, freed from the scum of the population, met together and resolved to accept the tickets of relief for last week, hitherto refused, leaving future arrangements open. The way is thus open for amicable discussion, though it is worthy of note that the Central Relief Committee emphatically approve the course pursued by the Staleybridge committee. There is no doubt that the rioting has been the work of a very small minority, whose alleged grievances have been paraded in the *Times*, while even the Secretary of the Central Committee has been forbidden to reply to them, and that the great mass of the operatives are grieved and indignant at the dishonour that has been brought upon the whole class by the idle lads and roughs of Staleybridge.

The cause of Polish independence has sustained a heavy, perhaps a decisive blow. Langiewicz, the newly-appointed Dictator of Poland, and the most successful leader of the insurgents, is in the custody of Austria; his force of 12,000 men, if not defeated, is dispersed; and the frontier of Galicia, though open to the crowds of fugitives that flock across, is closed to the supply of arms and ammunition. There has, no doubt, been dissension among the Poles, but the downfall of Langiewicz may be accounted for on other grounds. His force was too large to carry on a guerrilla warfare, and was at last encircled with masses of Russian regular troops, that two brilliant successes only paved the way to the ultimate dispersion and flight of his followers as the alternative of annihilation. But after all, the scene of this disaster is but a corner of Poland. Throughout its vast plains and forests insurgent bands still carry on the revolutionary war, often with considerable success; and the National Committee at Warsaw have resumed supreme authority, and counselled strenuous resistance. It might have been thought that the Czar would take the opportunity of stopping further bloodshed, by proclaiming an amnesty, but the evident resolve to stamp out the insurrection means weeks if not months of desultory war in its most terrible forms. When Russia has "created a desert and called it peace," that generosity which it is the fashion of French Imperialists to parade, will doubtless be put in action. Cut off from external help, disappointed of a Muscovite rising, the Poles may still fight long, though not successfully, with the energy of despair. Still they do not themselves give up the conflict. At a meeting at Manchester yesterday, Count L. Zamoycki declared that he would rather see his country submit twenty years longer to Russian rule than be assisted by a foreign military force. "His strong conviction was that his country was numerous, powerful, honest, devoted, and he would say virtuous enough to gain the victory by her own strength, humanly speaking Poland would triumph over Russia either now or hereafter." This, at the present juncture, is memorable language, the omen, we would fain hope of a better future for Poland.

The attitude of France, and indeed of Austria,

in relation to the Polish insurrection, is now clearly defined. The Court of Vienna declines to take part in any combined representations to the Czar, and prefers a policy of neutrality. The speech of M. Billault, "the talking Minister," in the French Senate which has received the marked approval of his Imperial Master as opposed to the compromising address of Prince Napoleon, deprecated encouragement to the useless struggle of the Poles, and left all to the magnanimity of the Russian sovereign, who has promised "concession and amnesty." When?

Three mails have arrived from America since our last, with a miscellaneous budget of news. The North is obviously and almost unanimously bent upon a reconstruction of the Union by the conquest of the South, and the peace advocates scarcely dare to open their mouths. Union Leagues to sustain that policy are forming throughout the land,—in the West there are five hundred of these clubs; and though the President was about to make his first call for men under the Conscription Act, not a speaker or paper had ventured to propose resistance to it.

The war news is of the usual chequered character. The decimation of General Grant's army before Vicksburg rendered vigorous action imperative. Federal gunboats are said to have forced their way into the Yazoo River, and captured 7,000 Confederates and eight transports. The imminent danger of Vicksburg being taken in rear has excited the Confederates in Tennessee to action. Van Dorn, hitherto unfortunate, has gained a decisive victory over a smaller force of the enemy and cut them to pieces, while Longstreet is threatening Kentucky, and even Ohio. Mobile, like Charleston, defies the Federal armaments, and the fruitless attempts to destroy the iron-plated Fort Macallister have preserved that Southern port from attack. Hooker is still reorganising the army of the Potomac, and biding his time.

Southern papers, unlike the special correspondent of the *Times*, are unusually despondent. Those of Virginia bewail the enormous sacrifices that State is called upon to make by the arbitrary Central Government, and recommend a law forbidding the unlimited growth of tobacco and other articles not needed in war. Charleston and Mobile papers complain of the high prices of food, and state that "the product in many extensive districts in the Confederacy is below the average, and in some even threatens scarcity." One journal calls attention to the fact that foreigners "are removing to the kingdom of Abraham the First in large numbers"; another reveals that gold is at a premium of 300 per cent. at Richmond; while President Davis has appointed a day of fasting, humiliation, and prayer "for the merciful protection and guidance of the Almighty." There is no doubt that the Confederates are sorely driven, but their very desperation will make them all the more formidable in the field. At the same time the appearance of a strong Union party in Northern Alabama is a sure indication that the boasted unanimity of the South is less real than has been described. These statements will not afford much encouragement to the British holders of the new Confederate loan.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS IN PARLIAMENT.

THE Lords have quietly passed the few comparatively unimportant Bills sent up to them from the Commons by her Majesty's Government. Their talking they reserved for other topics. One of these will, no doubt, tend to make the City authorities uncomfortable, no matter when, where, or how it is mooted—the desired amalgamation of the City and Metropolitan Police. Lord Dalhousie started the subject once more on Thursday afternoon, and in more decided tones than before—giving the Duke of Cambridge an opportunity of explaining how the offers of military assistance on the day of the Princess Alexandra's entry into London had been declined. Lords Taunton and Overstone expressed themselves strongly on the inconveniences and the absurdity of maintaining a separate police establishment for the City, and Lord Granville, on the part of the Cabinet, stated that preliminary inquiries have been set on foot, and that, until the upshot of them has been ascertained, nothing can be done. In a word, Ministers shrink from giving offence to the City Corporation. But a much more important topic claimed their Lordships' attention on Monday evening, when Lord Stratheden pleaded the claims of the Southern Confederacy to instant recognition, and recommended that step by an elaborate array of the arguments with which the British public have by this time become familiar. Lord Russell replied to the noble lord with good effect—met his arguments, disposed of his precedents, and concluded by saying that "in the

present state of affairs, looking to the question of right, it would not be a friendly act towards the United States, it would not be to fulfil our obligations to a country with which we have long maintained relations of peace and amity—but it would be a failure of friendship on our part if, at this moment, we were to interpose and recognise the Southern States." "Depend upon it, my lords," said the noble Foreign Secretary, "if this Civil War in America is to cease, it is far better it should cease by a conviction, on the part of the North and the South, that they can never live again happily as one community and one republic, and that the termination of hostilities can never be brought about by the advice, the mediation, or the interference of any European Power."

The Commons sat very little beyond an hour on Wednesday morning, but even that short time amply sufficed to compel the withdrawal of Mr. Brady's Diseases Prevention Bill. We are duly grateful to this retired medical gentleman for his watchful care of the only patient he now has, to wit, the British public. But surely it will be early enough for him to prescribe when he has been regularly called in. The use of cabs and other public vehicles by persons afflicted with infectious and contagious diseases is undoubtedly a source of danger to others. But a legal remedy is much more likely to work mischief than to prevent it. The visit of a friend or a medical man fresh from a sick-room has also its peril to the person thus visited—but is that also to be prohibited by law? And if not, why not, on Mr. Brady's protective principles? Our clothes may come from the tailor's with the seeds of disease in them communicated by some poor workman or workman's wife with whom, while suffering from small-pox, or typhus or scarlet fever, they may have come in frequent contact during the process of making. Are we to have Acts of Parliament also to prevent this? We beg most respectfully to assure Mr. Brady that he is hardly qualified to become proxy for Divine Providence—and that his utmost ingenuity in tinkering one hole by which human life may escape, will leave so many other holes which he cannot stop up, that he had better give up the attempt as a job somewhat above his powers. The public would much rather run a few occasional risks, than find their freedom of movement hedged about on all sides by a *chevaux-de-frise* of legislative precautions.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, having slightly modified some of the details of his Tobacco Duties Bill, to obviate, as far as may be, the objections of the trade, pushes it on with his characteristic perseverance, and gains ground steadily, spite of the pertinacious opposition of Mr. Ayrton. On Thursday he succeeded, after a political duello with the hon. member for the Tower Hamlets, in which the latter sustained a decided defeat (170—87) in forcing the measure into Committee, explained the alterations he had accepted, and passed the Bill through that, its most critical stage. Sir George Grey has been equally successful with his Corrupt Practices at Elections Bill. Two clauses have been added to this somewhat stringent measure—the first incapacitating for a seat in Parliament, for five years, any person convicted of bribery, treating, or undue influences at an election—and the second throwing upon any county or borough reported by a commission of inquiry as one in which corrupt practices extensively prevail, the costs of the commission. Rough justice—but effective—in a matter that will not admit of a nice legal adjustment of individual rights. It actually looks like sincerity in the wish of the Commons to prevent bribery at elections.

We have separately treated the interesting but humiliating debate of Friday on the Packet contract service, for which the country is indebted to the hon. member for Montrose. Passing over unnoticed some other topics of minor interest which different members seized the opportunity offered them by the motion for going into Committee of Supply for ventilating—such as the murder of Mr. Braddell in Ireland, and the social morality of the Irish labouring people which it exhibits, the Clothing Factory at Pimlico, and the state of the coast defences at Yarmouth—we meet with nothing worthy of comment until we come to the speeches of Mr. Hennessy and of Lord Palmerston, on Monday night, touching the affairs of Poland. The hon. and learned gentleman, after presenting a detailed picture of the struggle now being carried on against such fearful odds in that unhappy country, and accepting Lord Palmerston's dictum that the Treaty of Vienna, although it gave us the right to interfere, laid us under no obligation to do so, asked whether, even if we were not politically bound to go to war, we were not morally responsible for allowing Russia to trample her subject province in the dust? The noble Lord replied that such moral obligation as might be imposed upon England by that Treaty could only extend to diplomatic action, and when

the time should come for laying the papers before Parliament, it would be found that the British Government had not been negligent in the discharge of that duty.

We have nothing more to add, except to notice the signs of Ministerial preparation for an early close of the Session. The Budget has been fixed for the 16th of April. The Navy and the Army Estimates are already got through. The Mutiny Bill is passed. Six weeks or two months more will probably suffice for the transaction of all the remaining necessary business of Parliament for the present year. We hear of no important forthcoming measures. We do not discern at this moment any symptom of an approaching party struggle. Very soon after the Easter holidays the House of Commons will have put the little public business it has had to transact into such a state of forwardness that Ministers will be able, should they be driven to extremity, to dissolve Parliament without serious inconvenience, or, if they are let alone, to prorogue by Midsummer Day. Such prospects, however, sometimes prove illusory—and the latest Sessions are often the fruit which follow these very early blossoming periods. In Parliament as well as elsewhere the proverb holds good that "one swallow does not make summer."

THE LANCASHIRE RIOTS.

DISAPPOINTED, pained, and mortified as the British public have been by the popular tumults which have disgraced Staleybridge and Ashton, we much question whether the disappointment, pain, and mortification of the great bulk of the manufacturing population of Lancashire, both masters and men, do not exceed it in intensity. Across one of the most striking pictures of the present age—one which had attracted the attention, and commanded the admiration, of the whole civilised world, a few misguided men have drawn the brush of discontent and for ever spoiled its effect. No explanations will restore it to what it was. It is a cruel accident which robs Lancashire of her pre-eminent glory—and every heart which throbs with human sympathies will feel for her—but no earthly effort can now give her back what she has lost, the unsullied majesty of her reputation. It is a pity—O, what a pity!—that without any essential change in the character of her people, without having done aught to deserve such a reverse, without forfeiting an iota of the claim she had established to the praise of unprecedented patience, endurance, and social magnanimity, the towering reputation which she had built up at such cost and self-sacrifice, should in a day or two be overturned by the ignorance and passion of a few bad men—but so it is. The uniqueness and charm of her example, like the bloom of a ripe peach, have been rubbed off by ruthless hands—and from the bottom of our souls we condole with her.

We have no right, and we are sure we have no disposition, to impute blame where we see little or nothing but sheer misfortune—nor to include in one sweeping condemnation a still high-minded majority, and a small proportion of reckless and unprincipled men. We have to bear in mind that there is in all great communities a sprinkling of intractable, unreasonable, idle, and vicious people, who, during a period of protracted suffering have it in their power to mar the effect of the brightest example, and involve in their own shame countless thousands who would have born any extremity of woe rather than be thus cruelly misrepresented in the eyes of their fellow-countrymen. Moreover, there would seem to be inherent in our common nature a well-nigh irresistible tendency to demoralisation under any lengthened course of subsistence on alms—a tendency in the administrators to lose something of their good will, and in the recipients, something of their self-respect—and of course, it will show it itself first in the weak and defective members of both classes. We cannot be surprised that here and there evidence of this demoralisation should make itself manifest—and should it so chance that it first appears in those places in which, owing to local feuds, there have been rival organisations outbidding one another in the imprudent distribution of charitable funds, we shall see nothing but what the laws of humanity bid us to anticipate, and be discriminating in our awards of censure.

Such considerations as the foregoing should materially mitigate our judgment of the late painful occurrences at Staleybridge and Ashton. As yet, we must regard them as isolated and exceptional. We protest against making them an occasion for charging the master manufacturers with harshness in their treatment of the working hands, or for imputing to the great body of cotton operatives ingratitude towards a benevolent public. We observe that the most active rioters, and the most wantonly mischievous, were Irish, the national propensities of

whom we have had abundant opportunities of appreciating, and English lads and lasses who can hardly be said to have reached years of discretion. We learn, too, that the only indigenous riot occurred at Staleybridge, that of Ashton having been imported thither by vagrant bands. What may be the state of feeling at Manchester, Salford, Preston, Wigan, Bury, Bolton, Oldham, Rochdale, and other great seats of the cotton manufacture, we have not yet the means of knowing with accuracy. But we do know that, up to the present time, they have not caught the contagion from the two delinquent boroughs, or, at any rate, have not exhibited the more serious symptoms of the disease. We have not heard of a disturbance of the public peace at any of these populous centres—and if the spirit of discontent and angry impatience pervades them, it can only be within the last few days.

Exceptional, however, as is the sad instance of insubordination in the cotton districts, and susceptible as it may be of local explanation, it reminds us very painfully of the great social and economical problem which remains to be solved. It seems pretty clear now that under no conceivable circumstances can the working population of the cotton districts regain full employment in their own trade under two or three years. What is to be done with them meanwhile? We do not ask how they can be fed, clothed, and lodged—for this is the least difficult and the least alarming aspect of the case. But how are they to be employed? To maintain them, or any large proportion of them, in idleness for another year would probably be as cruel to them as it would be detrimental to the public. It is impossible to prevent the demoralisation even of the best of them under such circumstances. Doubtless, it not only seems, but is a great misfortune that a machinery for the creation of wealth so well organised, so admirably adjusted in all its parts, and so powerful and far-reaching in its results, should fall into utter disrepair, or lose its efficiency, by the dispersion of its materials over the face of the earth. But may it not be, after all, the least of the evils we have to choose from? If the workpeople could be retained without suffering irreparable moral injury from their forced idleness, it would perhaps be wisdom to retain them. If by any happy organisation they could be set to work *ad interim* so as really and consciously to earn their living by the labour of their hands, it ought not to be the mere expense of such an experiment that should prevent an attempt to carry it out. But they who propose to prohibit the scattering of the cotton population by emigration or otherwise, are bound, we think, to do more than show us how the pecuniary cost may be met. They ought also to point out how the moral qualities of the hands may be preserved during the intermediate stage of non-employment. Till they have done this they have not made good their claim. It is better that, for a time at least, we should part with what has been and might again be a prosperous trade, than that we should place half-a-million of honest and high-minded workpeople in a position which could not fail to endanger their character. Mind before matter, morals before wealth, must be the rule of our judgment—and, as things now stand, the application of that rule compels us to believe that it will not be for the best interests of the country to prevent by artificial arrangements the body of cotton operatives from finding other employment, and in other parts of the globe.

Our main object, however, in the foregoing observations has been to deprecate a too hasty and sweeping conclusion from what appear to be exceptional facts. All Lancashire ought not to be condemned because rioting has disgraced Staleybridge and Ashton. There will be eagerness enough in some quarters to sow seeds of discord between the employers and the employed, and the late lamentable events will afford them an opportunity for the ill work. Would it not be well that both masters and men should hasten publicly to disclaim all sympathy with the disgraceful outrages which have cast a blot upon the reputation of Lancashire?

THE SOP TO IRELAND.

IRELAND is the child that cries for the moon. She wants secure harbours, capacious docks, and ocean steamers, but, as they don't come for the calling, she goes to the Saxon Government, and asks for help to compete with the rest of the world. And so nicely do the Irish members play their cards that Ministers find it advisable to succumb against their own better sense. Lord Palmerston having, on Friday, with the wand of a conjurer, created an atmosphere of lofty statesmanship, the mesmerised keepers of the nation's purse-strings cast "Hansard" to the winds, forgot Lord Russell's famous protest against yielding to undue influences, and without

ado voted 78,000*l.* per annum for the Galway job.

Tried by any fair test, this subsidy to the broken-down Atlantic Royal Mail Company is indefensible. It was originally granted by Lord Derby, when his Government was in *extremis*, against the better sense of many of his colleagues. The company had a fair trial. They ran their steamers from Galway to New York, but the promised traffic did not come. Irish patriotism did not, or could not respond; and the port of Galway did not or could not attract sufficient passengers. In less than two years after the starting of the company 388,109*l.*, being 10,000*l.* beyond the original amount of the entire capital, had been sunk. Of course the contract to carry the mails could not be performed, and Government was obliged reluctantly to give notice that the subsidy should no longer be paid.

Had this been an English speculation, the affairs of the company would have been wound up, after the fashion of the North of Europe Steam-ship Company. But its managing directors knew their advantage. They had but to raise a political storm, and ride on it, to get clear of their difficulties. The 1,817 original shareholders, most of them resident in Ireland, were left in the lurch, and a number of preference shares created, only one holder of which is in Ireland—the remainder being "the friends and retainers of a well-known firm in Lombard-street." The company is consequently in the condition of the Irishman's coat, which was darned all over till none of the original material remained. Why did not the resuscitated company recommence operations at once, when provided with fresh resources? Did they mistrust their ability to make the line pay without extraneous aid? Surely, if the glowing description given by Mr. Gregory and Mr. Whiteside, in Friday's debate, of the grand field open for such an enterprise, be correct, there should have been no room for hesitation. But, singularly enough, everything was made to hinge on a renewal of the Government subsidy. Parliament was besieged, every influence was brought to bear upon the Government, the Opposition was induced for its own credit to take up the case, and matters were so adroitly managed that Lord Palmerston himself was nearly being driven out of office by the intrigues of Father Daly. The lesson was not lost upon the adroit and supple Premier. With an air of injured dignity he spurned the idea of yielding to threats and clamour—

"And saying, I will not consent—consented."

A Commons' Committee vaguely reported in favour of the renewal of the contract, and the company having temporarily patched up their affairs and cobbled up their steamers, the subsidy was renewed in January last.

It is impossible to read the calm and impartial historical review of Mr. Baxter in introducing his motion on Friday—which was cheered even by those about to vote against it—without agreeing with his conclusion that the renewal of this subsidy is an unmitigated job, more fitted for the lobbies of the American Congress, than the British House of Commons. Nor was the force of his statement broken, nor scarcely affected, by the special pleading of Mr. Gregory, and the irrelevant sophisms of Mr. Whiteside. The Galway contract is a recurrence to the almost obsolete system of governing Ireland by paltry bribes instead of substantial justice. The arguments with which Lord Palmerston defended the subsidy, however specious when the Atlantic Mail Company was started, have lost their relevancy by its subsequent failure. No one was able to show that the Galway line of steamers would command more traffic or passengers than before; and without that prospect, the subsidy is simply a grant of national money to keep alive for a time a bad private speculation, and a bonus, not to the Irish promoters of the scheme, but to the English preference shareholders. There is not even the poor satisfaction left that this 78,000*l.* a year will benefit Ireland, because it is calculated to retard the natural action of private enterprise and competition. Even if Ministers felt themselves bound to favour a Galway line, decency required that they should throw open the conveyance of the mails to public competition. By renewing the engagement with the resuscitated Atlantic company they have acted with less excuse than Lord Derby's Government.

The spirit of Lord Palmerston's speech justifying the renewal of the contract was worse than the act itself. It was the language of the scheming politician rather than that of the far-seeing statesman. To balance conflicting interests, and give boons at the nation's expense to alternate factions, in proportion to their pressure, is the revival of the paternal theory of Government which we had hoped was exploded in England half-a-century ago. We have already found during the last few years that it is both costly and demoralising. Lord Russell has described in advance the result of this "profligate" policy:—"Galway contracts might spring up in other

parts of the kingdom, and if ten or twenty gentlemen, in the divided state of the House, or of the great parties which are represented here, found that they had defeated one Ministry by this means, the new Ministry would soon experience a similar attempt to make them stoop to this degradation." The Irish members have not indeed defeated the Government, but they have done what is far worse—obliged it to yield to unreasoning clamour—to continue a delusion and confirm a job."

So long as Ireland is satisfied with bribes instead of justice—with Maynooth endowments, middle-class colleges and Galway contracts—her real grievances will remain undressed, her claims to civil and religious equality will be unregarded. A nation which is not above accepting sops will never extort just legislation, nor secure the sympathy and respect of mankind.

MORRA.

In his charming little book on *The Study of Words*, the Dean of Westminster shows that words, besides being "fossil poetry," are also "fossil history." Just as the fossil conserves curious and beautiful shapes of vegetable or animal life which must otherwise have perished centuries ago; so certain words conserve the beautiful but evanescent forms of human imagination, or the delicate tracings of historic facts. He cites the word "tribulation" as a fossil form. This word, he says, is from the Latin "tribulum"—the threshing instrument or roller by which Roman husbandmen separated the corn from the husks. "Tribulatio" primarily signified this separating act. But some Latin writer of the Christian Church consecrated the word to a higher use. Sorrow and adversity are the appointed means for separating the light and trivial men from the solid and true, their chaff from their wheat. These then are "tribulations," threshings of the inner man, without which the wheat could not be gathered into the heavenly garner. As a specimen of the historic fossil, the Dean gives us the word "frank." The Franks were honourably distinguished from the degenerate races among which they established themselves by their manliness, their love of freedom, their scorn of a lie. Their name became an epithet which summed up their moral qualities. So that now, when we speak of a man as "frank" or use the derivatives "franchise" and "enfranchisement" to denote civil liberties and immunities, our words contain traces of historic facts of which we may never have heard, of which, while speaking, we are for the most part unconscious.

In Story's *Roba di Roma* we have just met with a word which has the singular felicity of being at once fossil history and a contemporaneous record. It is a fossil, for it contains the tracings of an historic fact round which it must have crystallised centuries ago; but it is a fossil whose surface has been polished till, like a glass, it reflects the life of to-day. Glance at it, and it glows, flashed with the shifting forms of a group of quick gesticulating Italians: look steadily into it, and you detect the outlines of a group of ancient Latins as superior in dignity of effect to the former group as the antique toga to the modern cloak, nay, look more intently still, and beneath these outlines you may discern faint traces of slender Egyptian figures from which the breath of life departed four thousand years ago.

The fossilised crystal which Sculptor Story—in whose study other and more beautiful reproductions of Italian, Roman, and Egyptian life may be found—puts into our hands is the word "*Morra*." *Morra* is the name of a game which was played by the subjects of the Pharaohs and Ptolemies, by the plebs of the Cæsars, and which is still played by the peasants and beggars over whom the Popes exercise their mild paternal sway. In the paintings at Thebes and in the temples of Beni-Hassan, seated figures may be seen playing it with precisely the same gestures as those which may any day be seen under the arches of the Temple of Peace, or in the wayside *astri* beyond the walls of modern Rome. The Latins were as devoted to the sport as the Egyptians, and played it in just the same way. At one time they carried their love of it so far, that they used it in their traffic in the Forum; inasmuch that Apronius the Prefect, in a proclamation which is remarkable as containing an early specimen of the *pun*, was obliged formally to prohibit the practice:—"Sub exagio potius pecora vendere quam digitis concludentibus *trader*;"—Sell your sheep by the balance, and do not bargain or deceive ("*trader*" having both meanings) by closing your fingers.

That we may understand this prohibition, which an old inscription still preserves, we must understand how the game is played. It is played thus. Two

men stand or sit opposite to each other, holding their right hands closed before them, their left hands being stiffly held out on a level with the shoulder. Simultaneously and with a sudden gesture they throw out the right hand, some of the fingers being extended and others shut up in the palm each calling out in a loud voice, at the same moment, the number he guesses his own extended fingers added to these of his opponent will make. If both guess right or both guess wrong, neither counts; but if only one of them hits on the right number he wins a point. Thus if one throws out four fingers and the other two he who calls out *six* makes a point, unless his adversary also call *six*. Five points make the game, and these, as they are made, are marked by the up-lifted left hand, one finger being extended for each point. When the game is won, the winner cries out "*Fatto!*" or "*Guadagnato!*" or "*Vinto!*" or else strikes his hands across each other as a token of triumph.

The game is played with the utmost enthusiasm, especially by the lower classes. Wherever the traveller walks in Rome or its neighbourhood, his ear is sure to be saluted by the loud explosive tones of two voices going off together, at brief intervals, like a brace of pistol shots. If he pause to listen, the tones will resolve themselves into articulate shouts of "*Tre! Cinque! Otto! Tutti!*" and if he turn round to discover whence these sounds proceed, he will see two men, in a very excited state, shouting at the top of their voices, as they fling out their hands at each other with passionate extravagant gesticulations. A stranger will be very apt to conclude that he has come on a violent quarrel, and to sneer at the poor fellows for standing there screaming at each other like women. As a rule, however, the Italians do not quarrel over the game; though as it offers singular facilities for cheating, hot disputes, in which the bystanders take an immense interest, will often arise, and give rise to one of these extraordinary scenes of expressive passionate gesticulation which make a stroll through an Italian street as amusing as a pantomime. Of course these disputes turn mainly on the number of fingers thrown out, as a shifty player may only half extend a finger, and then either close it or thrust it out as his interest may prompt. But the thumb is the root of all evil at *Morra*, it being often impossible to determine whether it was intended to be closed or not, and an unskilful player being, in this respect, very much at the mercy of an old hand.

Skill, however, tells in more legitimate ways. Each player, of course, knows how many fingers he himself intends to throw out. The main point, therefore, is to guess how many will be thrown by his opponent, and to add the two together as by a momentary instinct. A practised player will soon discover what are his opponent's favourite numbers, thus seizing one advantage; he will often gain another by a skill in divining, which only practice will give, how many fingers his opponent will extend, from the varying shape and movement of his closed hand. And as the game is always played with great vivacity, the hand being flung out with vehemence, and the voice raised to its full pitch, coolness and temper give in this, as in most games of mingled chance and skill, good omens of success.

This, in brief, is the description of the game given by Mr. Story. And it is not a little remarkable that the beggars of Rome should be playing at this day a game which amused the leisure of the hosts of Pharaoh, and was a favourite pastime in the camps of the Cæsars. The game seems to have known no alteration for thousands of years. The players in the old Egyptian paintings and sculptures are portrayed, some as keeping the reckoning on the fingers of the raised left hand, others as striking off the game with both hands to show that it was won—all of them, in short, using the very gestures of the modern Romans. That the ancient Romans received it unaltered from Egypt, and unaltered bequeathed it to their sons, is evident from the name they gave it. Its ancient Roman name was *Micatio*; to play at it was *micare digitis*, i. e., to flash with the fingers—the sudden opening of the closed hand in the air being the most striking feature of the game. Cicero refers to it: Varro describes it in terms which exactly convey the modern style of play. Nay—and here, our little circle being described, we return to the point from which we started—the modern Italian word *Morra* is but a corruption of the old Latin verb *micare*: *Morra* is only a corrupt contracted way of naming that flashing of the fingers which in the statelier fashion of antique Rome was called *micare digitis*. So that in this word we have, as was foretold, a worn and polished surface, which reflects the warm, passionate life of to-day; but which beneath the surface contains the tracings and outlines of historic

facts that carry back our thoughts to the life of Imperial Rome and the Egypt of the Ptolemies.

Dignus est, quicum in tenebris micet—"You may trust him even to playing at *Morra* with him in the dark"—was a proverb in use at Rome to denote a perfectly honest man. In modern Rome there are not many men, perhaps, who would not tell a lie for lucre's sake, even when it could not be found out; nor are men of that high breed too common even in England.

Foreign and Colonial.

POLAND.

LANGIEWICZ A FUGITIVE.

The new Dictator of Poland has been defeated, his corps dispersed, and he himself is in the hands of the Austrian authorities.

This serious disaster to the Polish armies is only partially explained. Reinforced by 5,000 men, the Russians resolved to place M. Langiewicz in the centre of a square, and line the four sides with a living wall of troops, fresh and eager for the chase. He was, therefore, left unmolested till the Russians had got together 20,000 men, a force sufficient, they believed, to oblige him to accept a battle. The most reliable account of the events that followed, is probably the following telegram from the special correspondent of the *Times*:—

CRACOW, March 21.—After two advantageous engagements on the 17th and 18th, Langiewicz, accompanied by a few officers only, left the camp, leaving the command to another officer. The person supposed to be Langiewicz, who was arrested at the frontier, has been taken to Lemberg. The insurgents are, apparently, not routed. Dissensions among the leaders are probable. On the 17th there was a combat at Jagoscie, on the 18th at Busko. The victory was with the insurgents. On the 19th there was a skirmish in the forest of Walicki. The Russians were driven out of it.

MARCH 22.—Nine hundred insurgents have crossed the frontier near Cracow this morning. They are in want of everything, but are not beaten or pursued. Langiewicz is in the castle of Cracow. The whereabouts of Rochebrunne and Bentkowski is not known. The insurgents are imprisoned. The *Czsa* does not think that the disappearance of the Dictator is of much import. The insurrection continues in other parts.

The *Constitutionnel* publishes the following two official despatches received at the Russian Embassy at Paris:—

WARSAW, March 20 (9.27 p.m.).

The united bands commanded by Sokol and Jakankowski, attacked on the 18th, first at Dziecinow, on the right bank of the Vistula, and pursued to Garwolin and Zambrzykow, were finally defeated between Natolin and Ucinice. The loss of the insurgents consisted in more than 400 killed and 54 prisoners. TENGEBORSKI.

To the Russian Ambassador at Paris.

WARSAW, March 20 (9.51 p.m.).

We have just received the news from Cracow that Langiewicz has been escorted from Uscie to Tarnow, accompanied by his aide-de-camp and by his wife. TENGEBORSKI.

According to a Cracow telegram the insurgents were rallying at Vislitz, and were provisionally under the command of Colonel Szechowski.

Subsequent telegrams are as follows:—

CRACOW, March 22 (Midnight).—Kreszow, in the palatinate of Lublin, was occupied by the insurgent chief Czechowski on the 20th inst. The insurgents took possession of the Government treasury. The Russians withdrew from the town without offering any resistance.

CRACOW, March 23.—A proclamation, dated 21st inst., of the former Central Revolutionary Committee of Warsaw has been published, announcing that the committee resumes its functions on account of Langiewicz having been taken prisoner. The proclamation concludes by making an appeal to the people to take up arms against the enemy. It says:—"When our brothers are perishing in such great numbers, the place of every Pole is in the ranks of the national army." Further divisions of the Polish insurgents have arrived here to-day.

It is said that the proclamation of Langiewicz, resigning the Dictatorship, warned the insurgents against the indulgence of party spirit.

According to a statement from Cracow, two thousand Russians, under Czengery, were posted, with six guns, near Opatowice. The insurgents were being pursued into the forests of the North-West.

The *Débats*, in explaining the circumstances of Langiewicz's escape, says that that General felt keenly, even before the fatal day, that his little army could not carry on regular war and fight in battle array against the Russian masses. He found it also every day more and more difficult to get provisions for his men while they composed but one corps in the palatinates of Cracow and Sand mir, which were exhausted from two months' ravages. This is why he resolved to scatter his force over several points, and to go himself with his officers into another palatinate, where troops quite fresh were expected.

"If we are well informed," says the *Débats*, "he counted upon reaching this palatinate, the name of which the reader will not be surprised if we decline to mention, by crossing the Austrian territory in secret. Unfortunately, the plan failed through the zeal of the Austrian agent, who committed the gratuitous fault of recognising him. Langiewicz having, however, been recognised, the only course left open to the Cabinet of Vienna, which is at peace with Russia, was to detain him. We doubt if the agent who made this important capture will be warmly congratulated by M. Rechberg; but he will probably obtain congratulations more easily than promotion to the superior ranks of his profession."

We (*Morning Post*) understand that the Cabinet of Vienna have resolved to place Langiewicz on parole, and to assign some Austrian town as his place of residence. The large body of refugees who have crossed the frontier from Poland are placed under surveillance, and are supplied with the necessary rations by the Austrian Government.

According to one telegram Langiewicz, in his flight and capture, was accompanied by his female aide-de-camp, Mademoiselle Pustowojtow.

Accounts previous to the capture of Langiewicz indicated the continued spread of the insurrection. In Lithuania all the Marshals of the Corporations in that province, all the judges and judicial officers, and all independent public functionaries, had sent in their resignations *en masse*, on the plea that they could not receive any communication from the Government in the Russian language. Governor Nazimoff ordered the arrest of 300 landed proprietors in Lithuania. It is stated also that in the military store-houses of Poland, the authorities discovered that large quantities of artillery and provisions are missing just at the time when they are most needed. Count Starynski, marshal of the Polish nobility, had tendered his resignation. The insurgents have been victorious over the Russian troops at Rudnika, in the Government of Mohilew. Raczynski, one of the insurgent chiefs, has, after many engagements, succeeded in leading his band, which has been continually increasing in numbers, to Pinsk. He has occupied that town and proclaimed the National Government. A desperate battle was fought on the 16th and 17th between Konin and the Posen frontier, in which the whole of the Russian troops quartered in that town, numbering upwards of 3,000 men, were engaged with 1,000 Poles under Mielenski. On the first day the Poles were forced to retire to Londok; but next morning, having received reinforcements, they attacked and routed the Russians with great slaughter. There is also a numerous and well-armed insurgent band, under Colonel Czechowski, at Tarnograd, where it has established a national government. The eastern district of Lublin is occupied by another strong detachment under Lelevel and Lewandowski, who twice defeated the Russian troops—the first time taking their guns, and the second using them against their former possessors.

A despatch from Lemberg of the 21st, says:—"The insurrection in Podolia is increasing. Bands of insurgents are stationed at Bar, Poczajow, and Joltuskow. The Government Treasury in Krzewienic has been seized by the national forces."

It is said that the demoralisation of the Russian troops passes all belief. Officers frequently disappear suddenly, and it hardly admits of a doubt that they are "put out of the way" by their men.

In Warsaw the Government is in an absolute state of isolation. One by one its warmest adherents are dropping off. Even Archbishop Felinski has at length decided to follow the example of his fellow-members in the Council of State, by sending in his resignation. The answer from St. Petersburg to the request of the Grand Duke for instructions with regard to all these resignations was characteristic. "Prognat' ich"—Turn them out—were the instructions of the Government. A post-office notification from Breslau announces that the running of the trains between that city and Warsaw is again suspended.

There seems to be little doubt that the convention with Prussia has again been put into effect. A telegram from Posen, dated March 20th, says:—"A Russian column has entered the territory of the Grand Duchy of Posen, marching through Pleschen, Neustadt, and Vreschen. The column afterwards returned to Russian Poland."

During the short stay of Langiewicz on the estate of the Marquis Wielopolski, at Chobrze, he gave the strictest orders to prevent any injury being done to the property.

FRANCE.

The debate in the French Senate on the petitions in favour of Polish independence was continued on Wednesday. The Marquis de la Rochejaquelein supported passing to the order of the day, and maintained that the movement in Poland was not national but revolutionary. M. Walewski said that the treaties of 1815 did not establish the rights claimed by the Czar over Poland. He also protested against the assertion that the Polish insurrection was a revolutionary movement. Prince Napoleon opposed passing to the order of the day. In the course of a lengthened speech he drew attention to the unanimity of the Polish movement, and said, "Men of all opinions and all ranks, up to the Archbishop of Warsaw, take part in the insurrection. With this state of things it would be deplorable to be only able to give to the Poles counsels of resignation. To pass to the order of the day is to vote against the national feeling of France. Circumstances are more favourable than ever. The Emperor is in the prime of his years and his genius. Our prestige is great abroad, and affairs at home are on a solid basis. The moment has come to act."

On Thursday M. Billault, the talking member of the Ministry, explained the view of the Government. He expressed his regret that words had been spoken likely to compromise the cause of Poland, and rendering more difficult the course of the Government. M. Billault said:—

The sympathies of France for Poland are not new, and are founded upon glorious recollections, and the sentiments inspired by the sufferings of a heroic people which have lasted nearly a century.

The Minister then stated that he had nothing to retract from the words which he had uttered in another Assembly, and continued:—

The Polish question is not forgotten, but a fresh insur-

rection can only bring fresh misfortunes, and it is neither good, useful, nor humane to encourage it. The French Government persists in this language.

M. Billault recalled that the policy followed by preceding Governments consisted in many words and little actions—"a policy dangerous for Poland, irritating for Sovereigns, and without result for anybody." "It is necessary," he said, "to mistrust popular impulses." M. Billault observed that aspirations for liberty were manifesting themselves everywhere, and made the Powers more accessible to the voice which has been raised in favour of Poland.

"For this reason," he continued, "Russia has replied to the communications of France by benevolent words, promising concession and amnesty. The old distrust of Europe towards France exists no longer. The policy and conduct of the Emperor has destroyed it for ever. Foreign Powers understand that this pacific and liberal policy responds to the wants and necessities of all parties. If it should happen that the destiny of Poland must be settled by a Congress, there is no doubt that the voice of France would be listened to."

M. Billault mentioned the precedents of the Senate on similar occasions, and asked that the order of the day be adopted. He remarked, in conclusion, that after the speech which the Senate heard the preceding day it could not hesitate between referring the petitions to the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, accompanied by its reasons for so doing, a course which, perhaps, implied the risk of war, and passing to the order of the day, thereby expressing confidence in the wisdom and firmness of the Emperor.

Much cheering followed the conclusion of M. Billault's speech, and the Senate passed to the order of the day by 109 against 17 votes.

The Emperor has addressed the following letter to M. Billault:—

My dear M. Billault,—I have just read your speech, and, as ever, have been happy to find in you so faithful and so eloquent an interpreter of my policy.

You have been able to reconcile the expression of my sympathies for the cause dear to France with the regard due to foreign Sovereigns and Governments. Your words were on all points in accordance with my meaning. I reject any other interpretation of my sentiments.

I beg you to believe in my sincere friendship.

NAPOLEON.

Prince Metternich has returned from his visit to Vienna, and has had an interview with M. Drouyn de Lhuys. The *Pays* thinks that France has reason to congratulate herself upon the favourable sentiments of Austria in the negotiations for the settlement of the Polish question.

There was a second "demonstration" by the young men of the schools on Thursday in the vicinity of the Luxembourg, where the Senate holds its sittings. It was intended for Prince Napoleon after his speech. It is said that no less than 2,000 students were present. Some arrests were made by the police.

ITALY.

It is again positively asserted in Turin that Signor Farini is about to retire from the Ministry, and that Minghetti will become President of the Council. Signor Farini's health is almost completely broken. Pasolini's retirement is probable; Peruzzi is to have Foreign Affairs, and Spaventa the Interior.

Four times the amount set apart as the Italian share of the new loan, has been tendered by public subscription.

Garibaldi has had a relapse—"not only is the insect tumified, but the swelling is gaining on the leg, which may bring about grave results." Much letter-writing and anxiety about Poland is supposed to be the cause.

ROME.

The Pope, in his allocution of Tuesday, expressed the deepest solicitude for the deplorable condition of Poland.

The Turin correspondent of the *Star* writes as follows—his information he says, coming from a prelate in the Roman Court:—

The career of the Pope is fast drawing to a close. The old man is fading day by day. His own phrase is that his weeks are numbered. He declines most of the remedies which the physicians propose. A sad smile is always on his lips. He remains for whole hours without speaking a word, plunged in a profound reverie. He eats and drinks very little. There has been a consultation of physicians from Paris sent by the Nuncio, according to some—by the Empress, according to others. But they were sent to little purpose. "The lamp wants oil," said the Pope himself, "but the oil of life is only given by God. When it pleases Him to extinguish my lamp, I am ready." The Pope is quite tranquil, and avoids as much as possible discussing any political question. After having refused the request of the Russian Ambassador, that he would address a letter to the Poles calling on them to return to their allegiance to the Czar, he became silent and meditative for a long time. Then he remarked to those near him, in a melancholy tone, "I shall go down to the grave bearing the hatred of the Italians; but I am only grieved for one thing, that I cannot bless Italy in dying. But I cannot betray the cause of God and the Church." Some courtier of the genuine stamp interposed a remark about Victor Emmanuel and his usurpation; but the Pope replied in a louder tone, "He is more victim than offender, that poor King. We should pity rather than blame him. Events have forced him on as they forced me in 1848. God's will be done." The Pope altogether avoids speaking of the Emperor Napoleon. If anyone mentions the name of the Emperor, he makes no reply; but, on the other hand, the name of Prince Napoleon makes his eyes light, and his cheeks redden with anger. In speaking of Austria, he lately said, "The Church may expect any treason henceforward. The defection of Austria was her supreme blow." Every day there is said at his mass the Collect for the Poles. He desires to be kept fully aware of the progress of the Polish insurrection, which is to him rather

a religious than a political event; the Catholic Church rising against the Schismatic.

AUSTRIA.

A letter from Vienna states that the Emperor Francis Joseph has decided upon a very early meeting of the Hungarian Diet. It also says that new reforms are to be effected in Hungary.

A Vienna letter of the 17th says:—"Prince Metternich, the Austrian Ambassador at Paris, had assured his Government that the Emperor Napoleon did not wish to see the peace of Europe disturbed, but wished Austria to co-operate with France and England in obtaining political amelioration for the Poles. Austria has determined to maintain her neutral policy."

We learn from another source—a Belgian newspaper—that the Austrian Government, while declaring itself willing to seek from the goodwill of the Emperor Alexander reforms and concessions for Poland, declines any co-operation or alliance with France which might impede its liberty of action, or which would seem to conduct logically towards a European war.

PRUSSIA.

In Friday's sitting of the military committee of the Chamber of Deputies, the commissioner of the Government curtly declined to entertain the proposition that the period of military service should be limited to two years, and declared, in the name of the Government, that no understanding was possible between it and the Chamber on that question.

The Berlin Chamber of Deputies sent a deputation within the last few days to the King to congratulate him upon the anniversary of his birthday. The King received the deputation very graciously, it appears, expressed his full belief in the loyalty and fidelity of the Representative Chamber (wherein his Minister, Von Bismarck, very lately enunciated quite a different opinion), and added the assurance of a hope that all existing differences might be removed, and pending questions be brought to a solution within the current year.

RUSSIA.

The most important news from Russia is that the city of Kiev has been placed in a state of siege, and that a powerful insurgent corps has made its appearance near Bar, in Podolia.

An Imperial ukase abolishes, "for certain local reasons," all relations of an obligatory character existing between the peasantry and the landed proprietors in the Governments of Wilna, Grodno, and Minsk, and four districts of Vitebsk. The emancipation of the peasants is to be completely effected. The ukase further orders that from the 1st of May next the peasants are no longer to pay their rent to the landed proprietors, but to the Government, which will itself pay to the proprietors the price of emancipation.

GREECE.

The Greek Government have recalled M. Tricoupi, their Minister here, and have abolished the Greek Legation in London. M. Tricoupi goes back to Greece this week.

This week a Belgian Prince is the favourite candidate for the Throne of Greece.

TURKEY.

The Montenegrin "question" has received yet another solution. Urged by the legations friendly to Prince Nicholas, the Porte has finally consented to forego altogether forts and blockhouses of every kind in the mountain territory, the Vladika, on his side, binding himself—and his diplomatic protectors further endorsing the promise on his behalf—to be of permanent good behaviour towards the Porte and its subjects, and otherwise to observe faithfully the provisions of his treaty of peace with Omer Pacha.

MEXICO.

General Forey has issued a proclamation, wherein he announces to the army that the attack upon Puebla will take place at an early period. The General renews the promise that the Mexicans will be at liberty to choose the form of their Government, and adds that "the French army will remain long enough in Mexico to aid the Government in proceeding on the path of progress." It is supposed that the siege of Puebla will commence on the 1st March. Cholera and typhus fever prevail at Puebla. It is believed that Ortega intends evacuating Puebla without giving battle, and that the same strategy will be carried out at the city of Mexico—the Mexicans afterwards confining themselves to intercepting the French convoys.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

Affairs in Shanghai city and the vicinity are quiet. The accounts from the interior are satisfactory. The rebel city Changhuo has tendered its allegiance to the Imperialists. The Rev. Mr. Parker, of the London mission, died at Ningpo on the 2nd inst.

Intelligence from Japan announces the degradation of the nobles who had been connected with foreigners. The measure was supposed to be the precursor of a repudiation of the treaties concluded by the Japanese Government with foreign Powers.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

Prince Taouris, son of Queen Pomare, has taken up his residence in Paris, to complete his education.

FALL OF HERAT. The Afghans have taken Herat, and armaments were therefore being prepared in Persia.

HEALTH OF THE KING OF THE BELGIANS.—Letters from Brussels state that Dr. Landenbeck, of Berlin

who had been again sent for to attend King Leopold, has found his Majesty in a more unfavourable state than during his previous visits. The King suffers particularly from fever and want of sleep.

TURKEY.—The population of Turkey in Europe, according to Ubicini's statistical tables, is thus composed:—Ottomans, 2,100,000; Albanians, 1,500,000; Tartars and other Mohammedans, 950,000; total Mohammedans, 4,550,000. Greeks, 1,000,000, and not 400,000, as reported in Mr. Lyard's speech; Catholics, 640,000; slaves, 6,200,000; Armenians and others, about 500,000.

INCIDENT IN THE FRENCH DEBATE ON POLAND.—An amusing incident took place during M. Billault's speech on the Polish questions. He undertook to deny that the principle of Revolution had raised the Emperor to the throne. It was, he contended, the principle of peace which had made him first President and then Emperor—the votes of all who loved peace, order, their country, and their religion. "And therefore," interjected Prince Napoleon, "you voted against him, and for 'General Cavaignac.'" The thrust was a staggerer even to dexterous M. Billault. When the latter had recovered his composure, he acknowledged that he did vote against Louis Napoleon, but maintained that he had nevertheless served him faithfully ever since.

TAHITI UNDER THE FRENCH PROTECTORATE.—Tahiti has been regarded by the imperial government merely as a military and naval station. In agriculture, as in commerce, the effect of the protectorate has been to slacken the rate of progress. The native population is dwindling with appalling rapidity, owing to the daily increasing prevalence of drunkenness and debauchery. These are openly countenanced by the French officials. Amidst a population so dissolute, it is not wonderful that even Catholicism should make little progress. What is much more deplorable is, that the successful efforts of Protestant missionaries should have been arrested, that Protestant schools should be closed, and a large proportion, consequently, of the native children be growing up in utter ignorance, although by far the greater number of the inhabitants, with the Queen at their head, profess Protestantism. It would be difficult to find a more revolting picture of a government, for selfish ends alone, regardless altogether of the good of the governed, than that exhibited by the French Protectorate in Tahiti.—*Saturday Review*.

A VISIT TO LANGIEWICZ.—A correspondent of a Lemberg journal, who has visited Langiewicz in his camp, writes as follows:—

At the entrance of the General's residence stand two powerful scythemen, with their weapons crossed. They form the bodyguard of the insurgent General. On the left is a chamber of moderate dimensions, in the centre of which is a table of a long and oval shape, and around this sit and stand many men, who carry on so lively a discussion that one scarcely comprehends its purport. Some of these are strong and wiry, others are in the bloom of youth; but among those present there are weather-beaten men, with gray beards and locks. At the end of the table, somewhat sideways, sits General Langiewicz, engaged in writing. The noise does not disturb him. In this respect, according to the report of those around him, he possesses much presence of mind. He writes, and at the same time answers many questions, and also distributes various orders to his officers, who continually come and go. His answers were short and decided, as were his orders. At last he raised his head a little, and I could observe him more narrowly. Persons entirely disinterested would declare his appearance to be quite an ordinary one, but he pleased me on the instant. I will describe him as briefly as possible:—He is of small stature, something over thirty years of age; thin, but muscular; the head in proportion, but with a weather-beaten though fresh complexion; dark hair and somewhat sparse beard; the eyes dark and large, but very beautiful; his entire expression is mild and decided, as with most thinkers. On his head he wore his sapphire-lined four-cornered cap, with dark lamb's-wool trimming and a white feather. He wore also large Polish boots, Polish hose, and a dark fur-trimmed cloak. He wore also a tricoloured sash, by which each of his officers was equally distinguished, while some were also ornamented with white and red sashes. After my interview with Langiewicz I began to look around me. It is difficult to describe all who were present. I became acquainted with Jezionski and Cieszkowski, and ever so many more, who have already made for themselves a name known to fame. Among others was Misa Pustowski, who appeared to be a young and delicate brunette. She is attired in man's apparel, has been present at all the battles, and on horseback flies like a bird. She is generally beloved and respected on account of her bravery and cheerfulness. In conclusion, to complete the picture, I must mention the Kapuchin who serves as field chaplain and magazine man, and who, notwithstanding his multifarious duties, is ever polite, agreeable, and cheerful. On the whole, the visit to Langiewicz has made a very favourable impression on me. I did not find in him the contentedness of resignation, but that arising from energy.

RIOTS IN THE COTTON DISTRICTS.

We regret to state that serious riots have taken place at Staleybridge, adjoining Ashton-under-Lyne, owing to the changes made by the local Executive Relief Committee in their mode of relief. It was determined at their last meeting that the adult operatives at the various schools should be paid with tickets at the rate of 3s. a week, and that a day in hand would be kept, so that the operatives would in reality only receive 2s. 6d. per head. To these propositions the scholars strongly objected, on the grounds that they were injurious, despotic, and totally uncalled-for. They were willing to be reduced 4d. per week, but they desired to be treated similar to the scholars in Ashton, who for a reduction of the same amount were to attend what they term the

labour test certain hours per week less, and they contended that they ought to receive their wages in money, and to the full amount. The men at the schools refused to receive the tickets, and when the schools broke up at four o'clock, a vast crowd had congregated around Castle-street mills, at which place there is a large educational class. The mob soon became very excited, attacked the handful of police sent against them with stones and brickbats, and put them to flight, and broke the windows of the most prominent members of the Relief Committee, especially of Mr. Bates, whose house was sacked. Several shops were plundered:—

It was now about five o'clock. In these stores were piled up heaps of mole-skin jackets, trousers, waistcoats, stockings, calico, and linen under-clothing for women, besides large quantities of mole-skin and other cloths for making up into garments. As fast as a score of lads and lasses could pick the goods up were these useful things hurled out of the upper windows to the people in the street. Complete showers of jackets would fall on the uplifted hands of hundreds of people in the streets, followed by bundles of stockings, or waistcoats, or flannel, or shirts, or chemises. People kept continually leaving the crowd with arms-full of all kinds of clothing, amid the jeers of many; but there were not a few who expressed their utter abhorrence of such plunder, but who were at the same time careful to express themselves with a prudent reticence.

Shortly after a troop of the 14th Hussars from the Ashton Barracks, under the command of Captain Chapman, appeared in sight. A loud cry of "The soldiers are coming!" was raised from one end of the street to the other, and the Hussars galloped along flourishing their swords as they proceeded. Every one now looked after his or her personal safety, and fled from the street immediately. But many arrests were made. The troops were preceded on horseback by the Mayor (Mr. Hopwood) and Mr. D. Harrison. The whole of them were received by the mob with hooting and yelling, and amid such discordant noises Mr. Harrison read the Riot Act to the populace. No missiles, however, of any description, were thrown either at the police or the troops. After the Riot Act had been read the troops commenced to clear the street, and proceeded up and down driving the people before them. The police were now engaged in capturing those who had stolen things from the stores, great quantities having been conveyed into the Irish people's dwellings contiguous to the spot. In some of the houses the people commenced burning the clothing in order to escape detection; others threw it into the canal, and various articles of wearing apparel might be seen floating on the water for some time. At night great numbers, about sixty, were taken into custody by the police, and the military withdrew from the town, the magistrates sitting all night long. The prisoners were brought up the next day (Saturday).

The inquiry commenced at ten o'clock and lasted till between three and four o'clock. The evidence given was confined to the identification of different persons as having been implicated in the disturbance. The result was the committal of the twenty-five persons to the Chester Assizes, and the discharge of the rest for want of sufficiently strong testimony against them. In the course of the proceedings Mr. John Cheetham, J.P., said,—

He was glad to say, for the honour of his own countrymen, that the disturbance had been created principally by the class of Irish who inhabited the town. It was only a fortnight ago that he had spoken in London of their good conduct under the present depressed state of things. They, however, had disgraced themselves, and his word was gone. He wished, however, to say that the town should not suffer any further annoyance. So long as he was a magistrate they would have order at all hazards, and he hoped that no further disturbance would occur.

The streets of the town were much thronged throughout Saturday, in spite of the magisterial notices placarded on the walls, that the Riot Act had been read, and congregating in the thoroughfares was forbidden. Most of the shops were closed. The crowds were greatest in the vicinity of the police-court, where they were restrained by the presence of the cavalry with drawn swords and loaded pistols. Some of the discharged prisoners were cheered, and the women in the crowd were conspicuous for turbulence, otherwise there was nothing like uproar until the men committed for trial were taken to the railway station shortly before five o'clock in two large omnibuses, escorted by the police and followed by the military. Near the station the police were repeatedly assailed by volleys of stones from crowds assembled on the neighbouring eminences. Sergeant Shandon was severely cut in the head and struck senseless. For some time after the departure of the train great excitement was kept up by the charging of the cavalry up and down the streets, clearing them of the mob, who took to their heels when thus encountered, and the town was comparatively quiet until darkness had set in. Neither police nor military had then been visible for some time, when it was reported that, in answer to a deputation from the "scholars" to the magistrates assembled in the Town-hall, the mayor had said he would use his influence with the relief committee to obtain tickets for every one on Monday, but nothing could be done before. When this was made known there was a rush to about a dozen bakers' and provision shops in succession. In most cases the shutters were forced down by the mob and the inmates then handed out all their loaves and cheeses. This went on in different parts of the town from seven o'clock till ten, the appearance of the cavalry sometimes serving to clear the streets, but not being sufficiently ubiquitous to check the proceedings with any effect.

On Sunday there was no renewal of the disturbances, but immense numbers of people, many of them strangers, paraded the town.

A meeting of the Relief Committee was held at Staleybridge on Monday morning, and in consequence of their adhering to their resolution not to give relief in money but by tickets, all the operatives but eight refused to receive them. Many of them, however, it is thought, were frightened into refusal by the general body. Bodies of the operatives proceeded to Ashton, Dakinfield, and Hyde. Most of the shops were closed all day, but the smaller provision shops opened in the morning, and the consequence was that their owners, in many cases, were frightened into the distribution of food to the mob. In the same way the keepers of beer-houses and public-houses were induced, more by fear than violence, to distribute beer to the people. In the evening there were 15,000 to 20,000 people in the streets, but no actual rioting.

The procession of operatives from Staleybridge reached Ashton about half-past nine on Monday. The magistrates were resolved to dispute their entrance, but were too late; various bread-shops and other provision stores were attacked, and their contents taken. While these depredations were going on Mr. Hugh Mason, one of the magistrates, with the police and a troop of the 14th Hussars, came up. He proceeded to address the rioters, and was received with cheers and hooting. He was lifted up on to the shoulders of several men, and many of the crowd took off their hats to listen to him. He addressed them to the effect that they would do much better by peaceable than by riotous conduct, and advised them to go home without committing further depredations. What they had done already, he told them, constituted a riot. (Cries of "No, no!" "No riot!" "He said, But it was a riot, and so long as he was a magistrate he would not permit riotous conduct to go on in Ashton unchecked. If they had any reasonable grievances to complain of they should, if application were made to the proper quarter, be heard and judged impartially. But if they took, as he was sorry to say they had done, the law into their own hands, they would earn for themselves well-merited disgrace, and would lose all the sympathy which had been so generally expressed for them. In Ashton shop-breaking would neither be allowed nor tolerated for a moment, and with the view of effectually and at once putting a stop to such disgraceful conduct, he should proceed to read the Riot Act and then call upon them to disperse.

Mr. Mason proceeded to read the Riot Act amid cheers, hootings, and cries of, "We want bread, we've got no money." The mob was then told to disperse, and they proceeded along Portland-street and Catherine-street to a baker's shop in Cavendish-street, into which a portion of them broke, and seized a number of loaves that were on the counter and threw them out at the door. As they were leaving this shop the police came up, and Mr. Dalglish seeing one of the mob carrying away a loaf apprehended him. The mob from this place went towards the gasworks, whither they were followed by the police, and soon afterwards the police, taking another route through Oldham-street, were assailed by a shower of stones. One of the missiles struck Mr. Mason, but did not severely hurt him. The moment the stones were thrown the police faced about and confronted the mob, now consisting of at least 3,000 people. The Hussars, which had been stationed in Henry-square, now came up and charged the mob with drawn swords, but rode through them without inflicting injury. The mob were broken and dispersed for the time, but a considerable number again collected and proceeded towards Dakinfield, sacking several shops on their way. At Dakinfield they were received by a body of the county constabulary, under Captain Elgee, who, with the assistance of the military, dispersed and drove them back to Staleybridge.

The recipients of parochial relief in the distressed cotton districts continue to diminish in number. Compared with the previous seven days there was last week a decrease of 3,311 persons, giving a total diminution since the 6th of December last of 61,589. Respecting Staleybridge, Mr. Farnall, the Poor-Law Commissioner, on Monday, made a special report to the Central Executive Committee, from which it appears that one-half of the entire population of that town are at present in receipt of parochial aid or are supported by the relief fund. The Central Executive Committee granted 600l. for one week to Staleybridge, but in making the grant gave an intimation to the district committee that the central executive entirely approve of the reduction made in the scale of relief at Staleybridge, and also of the distribution of relief by tickets, which they believe will not only prevent irregularities that have been complained of, but be advantageous to the families of the recipients of relief.

A paper cup, capable of containing the hottest liquids, and only a farthing in cost, has recently been invented in Germany.

HELP FOR POLAND.—We understand, on good authority, that a steamboat, conveying men, arms, and ammunition, under the command of the celebrated Colonel Lapinski, left London on Saturday, on her way to the Mediterranean, for the purpose of bringing succours to Poland by way of the shores of the Black Sea.—*Globe*.

SURREY CHAPEL POPULAR LECTURES.—There was a numerous audience on Monday evening at the above chapel, to hear Dr. E. Lankester, on "The Use and Abuse of Dreams," with experiments. The learned doctor was well received, and imparted much useful knowledge upon the subject in a pleasing and popular way. Next Monday, the Rev. G. W. M'Cree lectures on "A Day and Night in St. Giles's."

Literature.

LYELL'S ANTIQUITY OF MAN.*

The general opinion of the reading and the scientific world has not yet fairly pronounced itself on the merits of this book, and we do not in the least know how far our own feeling with regard to it may coincide with, or differ from that of the public at large. That feeling is certainly one of disappointment. We were fully prepared for the kind of "Evidence" which Sir Charles has drawn up; his object was perfectly well known, his skill as an author, and his attainments as a man of science, have long since been proved; but now that his much-heralded pages have come forth, we feel that the result is disproportionate with such distinguished antecedents. Sir Charles's object is to show that the human race is of very much greater antiquity than is commonly supposed; that the assumption of man's having tenanted the world for only about 6,000 years, must be abandoned as inconsistent with obvious and demonstrable facts. "The Geological Evidences of the Antiquity of Man," consist properly in setting forth these facts. Has Sir Charles succeeded in doing so? He has certainly spent a good deal of time in describing so-called "works of art" which, it is admitted, appear to persons unaccustomed to deal with them to be works of no art at all, but which probably are so notwithstanding. He has been no less laborious in the study of old bones which have been in many less important instances turned up by the geologist; but in the most important instances have been dug out by labourers employed in various engineering works, and sometimes under circumstances which have given occasion to suspicion. Commencing with some observations on the interest of the subject, and with a suggested change in geological nomenclature, the learned author proceeds to treat of the works of art discovered in Danish peat and in Danish dust and rubbish heaps, elegantly called "kitchen-middens." They are found in stone, in bronze, and in iron, and give occasion to yet more names, for which there were possibly never the equivalent things—the age of stone, the age of bronze, and the age of iron. "The age of stone in Denmark coincided with the period of the first vegetation, or that of the Scotch fir, and in part at least with the second vegetation, or that of the oak. But a considerable portion of the oak epoch coincided with the 'age of bronze' for swords and shields of that metal, now in the Museum of Copenhagen, have been taken out of peat in which oaks abound. The age of iron corresponded more nearly with that of the beech tree." The works of art derived from the peat are similar to those derived from the "kitchen-middens," of which Sir Charles writes:—"Scattered all through them are flint knives, hatchets, and other instruments of stone, horn, wood, and bone, with fragments of coarse pottery, mixed with charcoal and cinders, but never any implements of bronze, still less of iron. The stone hatchets and knives had been sharpened by rubbing, and in this respect are one degree less rude than those of an older date, associated in France with bones of extinct mammals. The mounds vary in height from three to ten feet, and in area are some of them 1,000 feet long, and from 150 to 200 wide." In the same mounds are found remains of sundry vertebrates, but all belonging to species known to have inhabited Europe within the memory of man. They contain no human bones, however, and we conclude therefrom that the builders of the mounds were at any rate not cannibals. Small round skulls have been found both in peat and in tumuli of the stone period—skulls such as now a-days are found among the Laplanders—while those of the bronze age, obtained from Danish peat, are like those of the iron age, larger and more elongated. Putting together all these circumstances, and taking into account the time which is requisite for the formation of the peat that has afforded these treasures, we conclude—at least Sir Charles Lyell concludes—that man is very much older than the common chronology will allow us to suppose.

With regard to the bones of man and of sundry extinct mammals discovered in caves in the south of France and in parts of Germany, Sir Charles acknowledges that his opinions have been materially changed. The change has been so recent, moreover, that if any of our readers like to order at once the book under notice and the latest edition of the *Principles of Geology*,† he

will find two different views enunciated by the same author on the same subject. We do not wish to make more of his inconsistency than it is worth, for no man can live and think without occasionally changing his opinion; and, of course, when such change has once occurred, it may be true of him that at one moment he admits what in the next moment he denies. But whether under such circumstances he is wise immediately to publish and endeavour to disseminate such revolutionised opinions, is a very different question. Would it not be well to wait? to see whether oft-repeated examinations would not produce an equal and yet further change? Look at it as charitably and candidly as one may, and admit Sir Charles's explanations and confessions to be all that one could wish, there is still some awkwardness and challenge of distrust in what certainly has the appearance of decided inconsistency. "After giving no small weight," says Sir Charles, "to the arguments of M. Deanoyers, and the writings of Dr. Buckland on the same subject, and visiting myself several caves in Germany, I came to the opinion that the human bones mixed with those of extinct animals, in osseous breccias and cavern mud, in different parts of Europe, were probably not coeval. The caverns having been at one period the dens of wild beasts, and having served at other times as places of human habitation, worship, sepulture, concealment, or defence, one might easily conceive that the bones of man and those of animals, which were strewn over the floors of subterranean cavities, or which had fallen into tortuous rents connecting them with the surface, might, when swept away by floods, be mingled in one promiscuous heap in the same amiferous mud or breccia." (See *Principles of Geology*, 9th edition, p. 740.) And that such "promiscuous heaps," have been repeatedly mistaken and misinterpreted, Sir Charles is no less sure now than formerly; but from his position as a whole he wholly withdraws, and says that "of late years we have obtained convincing proofs that the mammoth, and many other extinct mammalian species very common in caves, occur also in undisturbed alluvium, embedded in such a manner with works of art, as to leave no room for doubt that man and the mammoth co-existed." Thus clearly does the author contradict himself, and whether his affirmation or his denial is of the greater value, makes little addition to the weight of such testimony.

The most important discoveries of human remains of unquestionably, or almost unquestionably, great antiquity, are those of the Neanderthal skeleton and the Bugis skull. The Neanderthal is close to the village and railway station of Hochdal, between Düsseldorf and Elberfeld, and the so-called skeleton was found in a cave about sixty feet above the level of the stream flowing through the valley. The skeleton consists of a skull and of a few bones that once upon a time perhaps belonged to the same person. Assuming that the naturalists who doubted whether these bones were human at all were mistaken,* we learn that "on removing the loam, which was five feet thick, from the cave, the human skull was first noticed near the entrance, and further in, the other bones lying in the same horizontal plane. It is supposed that the skeleton was complete, but the workmen, ignorant of its value, scattered and lost most of the bones, preserving only the larger ones. . . . On the whole I think it probable that this fossil may be of about the same age as those found by Schmerling in the 'Lidge caverns'; but as no other animal remains were found with it, there is no proof that it may not be newer. Its position lends no countenance whatever to the supposition of its being more ancient." And this is the sort of "Evidence" on which we are to conclude that man is of incalculable antiquity; that he must have been in the world much more, very much more, than 6,000 years; that the accepted interpretation of the Biblical record is unreliable; and that Horace, writing, "*Quam propeperunt primis animalia terris*," &c.,† had more of the prophetic gift than Moses! It is with pain and shame we write thus; but however deeply we regret to think that a man who stands so deservedly high as Sir Charles Lyell stands has drawn up a bill of indictment that deserves to be thrown out almost with scorn, we certainly do think so, and say so. This wondrous skeleton was perhaps human; the skeleton consisted perhaps of

* The doubt was expressed by several naturalists at Bonn on occasion of a scientific meeting at which the "skeleton" was exhibited in 1857. — *Geological Evidences*, p. 78.

† "When animals first crept forth from the newly-formed earth, a dumb and silly herd, they fought for scraps and lurking-places with their nails and fangs, then with clubs, and at last with arms, which, taught by experience, they had forged."

With this may be compared a passage in the Fifth Book of Lucretius describing more particularly the habits of these new-born human animals.

nothing but a skull, but perhaps of the other bones as well. It is perhaps as old as the Lidge fossils, and perhaps it is a good deal newer. And on more perhaps-es, for a foundation, we are to construct a ram and batter down the Book of Genesis! With mere perhaps-es for our premises we are to draw the inference that the history of the fall of man is a fable, and that Adam was not only not the first man, but that his ancestors belonged to a race with the most ape-like skulls that ever belonged to anything that was not an ape. We do not care to follow Sir Charles into his observations on the Engis skull nor on any other fossils. If his instances are valueless separately, they are valueless in the sum. We have not a shadow of objection against being reminded of the excellent saying of Agassiz, "that whenever a new and startling fact is brought to light in science, people first say, 'It is not true,' then that 'it is contrary to religion,' and lastly, 'that everybody knew it before.'" We do not prognosticate such fatal consequences from the reception of the doctrines of transmutation and progression as have been prognosticated by some of our contemporaries. But we do with heart and soul object to see any man pile up an infinity of nothings in order to prove such consequences as those which Sir Charles Lyell finds involved in these so-called "Geological Evidences of the Antiquity of Man."

It will be observed that in rejecting Sir Charles Lyell's argument we do not say that that which he desires to prove is necessarily false, or in any way incapable of proof, but only that it is not proved by anything here advanced. The conclusion that man is of only about six thousand years' antiquity is largely inferential and confessedly uncertain; is a conclusion accepted by perhaps only a minority of Biblical scholars, and is certainly not worth fighting for. We are not at all prepared to say that it will never be necessary vastly to extend the time from the Jewish middle age backwards to the first appearance of man. There is nothing in the Bible to forbid it; we shall suffer no loss by it; and the difficulties involved in the longer period will probably be found no greater than those involved in the shorter. At any rate, so much is claimed by those still adhering to the perfect reliability of the Bible history, and may be safely conceded by those of us who do not as yet see the need of it; but before that shorter and more generally accepted period is definitely rejected, let us at least have some better reason for it than an accumulation of geological conjectures.

"LES MISERABLES."*

We are at a loss to know by what name to designate, and in what class to place this book. A novel it certainly is—full of striking scenes and thrilling incidents, with plot and characters enough to supply capital for half-a-dozen works of the kind—yet to speak of it merely as a novel would do injustice to it, and, possibly, prepare disappointment for those who might resort to it in the expectation of finding one of the common three-volume fictions with which circulating libraries supply their *habitués*. The fact is, the entire story might be abstracted and leave a very respectable residuum behind. Grand historic episodes, subtle metaphysical and social speculations, sketches of French society in different classes and at different periods, and sentimental dreamings, are blended with the fiction, and unite to form a mosaic, sometimes very quaint and singular, often in egregiously bad taste, but always gorgeous in its colouring, and generally striking in its effects. Now we have the Battle of Waterloo described in that gorgeous style of which the writer is so perfect a master—presently we are invited to contemplate the interior of a convent, and treated to a singular disquisition on the monastic life and the nature of prayer, which the English translator, with a thoughtful consideration for his readers, omits altogether. Here we are amused by a lengthened digression on the origin and significance of slang—anon we are groping our way through the Parisian sewers, and the tedium of our miserable journey is beguiled by very instructive dissertation on their history and construction. As to shorter episodes they are innumerable, whether on the Divine right of insurrection or the philosophy of barricades, the nature of the Parisian *gamin*, or the wrongs of Poland, the character of Louis Philippe, or what is presenting itself everywhere, the transcendent glory of Paris. Our readers may ask, what all these have to do with the story? and if we were met by so prosaic a question, we should be compelled to admit that most of them are sadly out of place. It would seem as if the author had collected all his notes of many years, "*de omnibus rebus et quibusdam aliis*," and determined to find some

* *Les Misérables*. By Victor Hugo. Authorized English translation. Three Volumes. London: Hurd and Blackett.

† The *Geological Evidences of the Antiquity of Man. With Remarks on Theories of the Origin of Species by Variation.* By Sir CHARLES LYELL, F.R.S., Author of "*Principles of Geology*," &c. Illustrated. London: John Murray. 1863.

* Edition the ninth; see Mr. Murray's list for January, 1863.

way of incorporating them in his book, very much to the detriment of the story, but very much also to the increased interest of those who find more pleasure in studying these brilliant pieces of thought and language, than in following the windings of a plot, however elaborate and skilful. The work is in gross violation of every law of art. The only excuse that can be pleaded for it is that genius acknowledges no such authority.

It is impossible that we can deal with this book merely as a contribution to literature. It is intended to influence the social philosophy and politics of the time; indirectly it deals even with religion itself, and we must judge it not simply as to its literary merits, but still more as to the general soundness of its teachings. There is ever a danger lest genius should be by the spells and enchantments which it has at command, and of which we are the facile victims, throw a glamour over our eyes and deceive us as to the real tendency of the principles it desires to promulgate. The higher, therefore, the estimate that we form of our author's powers, the greater the need for caution lest we be seduced into the acceptance of false estimates of character or erroneous views as to social life. M. Victor Hugo has not employed his great talents in producing a mere work of fiction. He designs, rather, to utter a protest on behalf of "*les misérables*," thieves, prostitutes, and convicts, *gamins* and *grisettes*, who are, in his view, often the creatures of circumstances, victimised by the thoughtlessness and injustice of society. A prostitute who dies in all the odour of sanctity, a miserable boy, trained in a very hotbed of vice, but displaying singular heroism and gentleness, and, above all, a convict-hero who is the impersonation of human goodness, are among the most interesting characters of the story. The latter is its centre figure, "a benevolent malefactor, a compassionate, gentle, merciful, and helping convict, repaying good for evil, preferring pity to hatred, ready to destroy himself sooner than his enemy, saving the man who had struck him, kneeling on the pinnacle of virtue, nearer to the angels than to man." The struggles of this man after the right, the difficulties society interposed in his way, and the resolution with which he surmounted them, the magnanimity with which he endured his trials, and the gentleness with which he requited those from whom he suffered most, are the elements of the story. As these are worked out through ten French volumes, and in three parts, we have a great variety of character and circumstances introduced, but this is the thread that runs through the whole. We have to enquire first—is the plot well conceived and executed? but, secondly (as the most important point), is the lesson taught one which society should accept as true?

Even on the first point it is not possible to give unqualified praise. It is true that we have here a perfect affluence of talent. Pathos and satire, philosophy and poetry, earnestness and irony, eloquent pleading, and touching description, keen insight into human motive and vigorous delineation of human passions, scenes of harrowing excitement or of all-subduing tenderness, dramatic and epic skill, objective and subjective power, we have without stint. The vividness with which the workings of the soul, in some of its inner conflicts, are portrayed, is singularly powerful. The struggle in the breast of Jean Valjean when he learns that an innocent man has been falsely accused of his offences and is in danger of being condemned to the penalty, is one of the most exciting scenes of its kind we ever read. The instinctive conviction that points out the course of duty and the sophistry with which self-interest seeks to crush it, the agonies and alternations of the struggle through which the man passes, and the uncertainty which continues to the final triumph of the good, are set forth with a dramatic skill and a thrilling reality that none but the highest masters in the art can command. Scarcely inferior in conception and in its general execution, though more improbable and unsatisfactory as to its result, is the picture of Javert, the police-officer and the incarnation of obedience to authority, after he has broken through the habits of a lifetime by letting the man who had spared his life escape the clutches of the law. In this analysis of emotions Victor Hugo excels, and nothing seems to afford him more pleasure than when he has opportunity to display this remarkable faculty. With equal art has he told many of the incidents of the plot. Valjean's escape from Javert in Paris, the scene in the chamber of the *Thenardières*, the fight at the barricade, and the flight through the sewers, are splendid pieces of writing that cannot fail to enchant the attention of the reader. As to isolated passages with striking thought epigrammatically expressed, their number is legion.

Still, despite all these qualities, we take exception to "*Les Misérables*" even as a novel. We will not complain of faults which are national characteristics, and would hardly be esteemed

errors by the author's own countrymen—exaggerated sentiment, an inflation of language which touches on bombast, and, a disregard to accuracy in the effort to produce striking antithesis. These, indeed, are often carried to excess even for a French novelist, and the effect occasionally is bathos of the most melancholy description. But these are only slight blemishes as compared with the grand mistake of attempting to inculcate political lessons by a character and a tale so grossly deficient in every element of probability. Jean Valjean is a marvellous portrait, but he is simply an impossible being. The author has developed his own ideal with consummate art, but that ideal is one which has no counterpart in the world of reality. That a man whose moral and intellectual growth had been stunted in his early training, whose soul had been brutalised by the daily contact with the most loathsome crime during the years he had spent at the galleys, and in whose heart there was a rankling sense of the injustice which he had suffered, should suddenly, through the kindness of a very gentle but very weak bishop, be suddenly transformed into an angel of light, who lived only to scatter blessings around him, is a supposition too monstrous to admit. We might point to minor improbabilities in the story, but this is the fundamental one from which most of the others proceed. Apart, too, from Valjean and the Inspector of Police, whose knowledge of his convict life is the source of all his troubles—and, even with all his weaknesses, the good Bishop—there is little to interest or please in any of the characters. We have a band of Parisian ruffians whose savagery is unredeemed by any nobler traits, a group of rollicking students, most of them wretched scoffers who set themselves up as regenerators of society, an old man, one of the *bourgeois* whose rabid Royalism is only equalled by his unblushing licentiousness, and a wretched family whom we find first at a provincial inn but whom continued ill-success reduces to the lowest ranks of Parisian misery and vice. Among all these there is not one whom we desire to remember. The hero and heroine are not very much superior, and whatever sympathy may have been awakened on their behalf is destroyed by their ingratitude to the old man to whom they owed so much.

These are serious abatements, but had they been the only ones we should have felt that the real excellences of the book far outweighed its defects. But it is of its moral characteristics we have to make the most serious complaints. The whole tone of the book is miserably low. Not only are many of the scenes defaced by that pruriency which is so common a sin in French novels, but the views inculcated are of the most loose description. Fantine, the heroine of the first part, though she had been seduced, is represented as the very soul of purity, and although driven by necessity to a course of crime, is told, after her rescue from this condition, "You have at present the dowry of the elect; it is in this way that human beings become angels. It is not their fault; they know not what to do otherwise. The hell you have now left is the ante-room to heaven, and you were obliged to begin with that." In fact, sin is throughout set forth as the result of circumstances, for which society, or possibly Providence, is to blame. There is nothing actually alluring about vice, for it brings with it squalor, wretchedness, disease, death; but all this is represented as the fault of others rather than the criminals themselves. Poverty necessitates crime—crime incurs the penalty of the law—law brands the transgressor as a pariah, and the unhappy being becomes what law and public opinion have made him. This is the theory, but even the story itself does not confirm it, and still less do the facts of real life. Undoubtedly the whole condition of the criminal classes is one of those problems which await solution, and deserve the most earnest thought of all wise and good men. But M. Victor Hugo has contributed nothing to its settlement. He has brought out some phases of the subject with which we were tolerably familiar before—he has exhibited the fatal consequences that sometimes are the result of one sin—he has reminded us that there are cases of individual hardship—but he has done nothing towards pointing out remedies, unless, indeed, it be that we should have a multiplication of that extraordinary class of bishops who give a practical illustration of the doctrines of Communism, extend hospitality to escaped convicts, and resort to a little deception, to save them from the punishment due to their crimes. If vice is to be reclaimed and wrong redressed, if property is to learn its duties and so the woes of poverty to be alleviated, it must be by other teaching than this. "*Non tali auxilio, nec defensoribus istis.*" We admire the beauty of many of our author's descriptions; we can gather instruction from his views of history, distorted though they sometimes are; we can honour the sincerity and boldness with which he advocates unpopular opinions, and feel the power of the eloquence with which he enforces them; we

thank him for awakening interest on behalf of those whose common humanity we are prone to forget, but as a teacher we cannot follow him. His ethics are little better than an apotheosis of weakness or vice—his philosophy is a mere chaos—his politics are the mere creation of sentiment—and his theology a dreary waste of Pantheism or unbelief.

POLYNESIAN MISSIONS.*

This may be regarded as a companion volume to the recent work by Dr. Turner. That valuable book was confined principally to the missions in the Eastern groups, while this treats of those less-known operations in the Western Islands. During twenty-five years' residence and toil in those regions, Mr. Murray has been in the habit of visiting most of the missionary stations, and has been well acquainted with their devoted labourers, and here, in a simple and unpretending, but deeply interesting volume, he gives the faithful record of what he himself has seen and heard. The one object he has in view is to stimulate the zeal and liberality of the churches, and primarily those in the Australian colonies, on behalf of the mission to which he has devoted his own life. He has sought, therefore, simply to set forth the facts as to the magnitude of the work, its difficulties and successes, and the information he has thus brought together is of the most important character. To those well acquainted with our missionary chronicles and reports, some of it will not be new, yet even they will be glad to see it put in this regular form, and can hardly fail to find many things, of which before they were ignorant.

Western Polynesia, embracing a number of groups and separate islands lying between the Fijis and New Caledonia, and extending as far north as the large islands adjoining New Guinea, is inhabited by various tribes, having no affinity to the people of the Eastern portion. The New Hebrides are the largest group, and there is little doubt that their great resources would have caused them to be brought into much closer communication with Europe had it not been for the savage character of the islanders themselves. Among them are Tanna and Eramanga, which have gained so melancholy a name in our missionary history, and though there are some varieties, yet the type of character manifested by these sanguinary barbarians, appears to be reproduced in most of the islands. The perils to which a missionary is exposed in dealing with such a people, full of suspicions and jealousy which the slightest incident may goad to uncontrolled madness, it is impossible to exaggerate. The outbreak of disease, the death of a favourite chief, the loss of their crops, or some unintentional violation of an unknown sacred law, may at any moment expose them to an outburst of sanguinary fury which they have no power to restrain or escape. The following incident in the history of the mission at Aneiteum illustrates this. In the particular case the missionaries were able to turn the current of feeling, but had they been less prudent, the result might have been very different.

"A change took place in the conduct of the natives. Hitherto, scarcely anything had been stolen from the missionaries; now the natives commenced stealing from them in right earnest. It was a common way to show their displeasure to steal, and it is still the practice on the neighbouring island of Tanna. The services were almost deserted, and those who did attend looked sullen and angry. The missionaries were totally at a loss to account for the altered conduct of the people. At length the problem was solved. A man named Nathana, who claimed to have dominion over the sea, went to the teacher, Simeona, and told him that the people were very much enraged with the missionaries, and that they were talking of burning their houses and driving them from the island. The missionaries lost no time in inquiring into the cause of the displeasure of the people. The following grave misdemeanors were laid to their charge. First, they had taken cocoa-nuts from trees on their own land, whereas the cocoa-nuts were all under a *tabu* for a great feast, which was at hand. The missionaries pleaded ignorance of the *tabu*, but agreed to respect it for the future, though it seemed rather hard that it should be extended to trees growing on land which they had purchased and paid for. Missionaries, however, must not stand stiffly on their rights under such circumstances, so they wisely yielded. Secondly, the missionaries had taken coral from the reef to make lime for their buildings. The *Natmases*, who are supposed to have their residences near the mission premises, had smelt the burning of the coral, and were very angry at the natives for allowing it to be taken, and, to punish them for their undutiful conduct, had made the fish scarce."

This having been settled, there was a third charge—

"Whereas a small hill behind the mission premises was the residence of some important *Natmases*, and the path by which the said *Natmases* were accustomed to pass from the mountain to the sea lay through a piece of ground on which the chapel was being erected, and, as the missionaries were about to put a fence round the chapel, the path would be obstructed, the *Natmases* would be angry, and would

* *Missions to Western Polynesia.* By A. W. MURRAY. London: John Snow.

punish the natives with sickness and death in consequence."

By judicious management, all these complaints were silenced; but where superstitions are so rife, and all offences against them draw down such terrible vengeance, the position of a missionary must be a most anxious one, and the more so as there is generally some bitter heathen adversary, ready to excite the anger of the people against him. There can be little doubt that the unfortunate Mr. Gordon fell a victim to the machinations of a villain of this character who had been a terror to his own people, and had a special antipathy to Christianity and its teacher. Perhaps, too, he had scarcely the tact necessary for so difficult a place. Firm, conscientious, earnest he was, but there are other qualities requisite for a post of so much danger and responsibility, and in these he appears to have been wanting. Very different was Mr. Geddie, the earnest and successful Apostle of Aneiteum. His task lacked no element of difficulty, and his life no kind of hardship. A rude and barbarous people, accustomed to war and bloodshed; powerful chiefs employing all their influence against him; war and hurricanes, sickness and famine, sweeping across the island, and all leaving behind them seeds of anxiety, opposition, and sorrow for him; and last, but not least, a number of white men seeking to blight his hopes, presented obstacles enough to daunt the bravest heart. The mission premises were burnt, his life was threatened, a general attack on the Christian party was organised, and, again and again, the very existence of the mission was jeopardised, yet his spirit never quailed, and he was never without the wisdom to devise the expedient suited to the emergency of the time. At length he gathered an abundant harvest for the seed sown in tears—the infamous practice of strangling widows was gradually abolished—the most powerful chiefs, who had been distinguished by the fierceness of their antagonism to the Gospel, became its converts and even teachers, and the whole island wears now an entirely different aspect, being itself a centre of missionary operations for the regions beyond. The narrative of this mission is one of deep interest, and the effect is enhanced by the simplicity with which it is told.

Mr. Murray is far from giving too flattering views. While he records the successes at Aneiteum, Lifu, and Vate, he does not shrink from telling the sadder tale of discouragements and reverses at Fotuna, Tanna, and Eramanga. These are dark spots, yet the general survey with which the book closes shows what abundant reason the friends of missions have for encouragement. Among the most painful circumstances brought out are the hindrances thrown in the way by white men, traders, and others. With the most utter indifference to the lives of the people, ships will enter the harbour and their crews go on shore, while they are suffering from some infectious disease, which they communicate to the natives, the result being a fearful sacrifice of life, and the imminent peril of the missionaries. Thus the Christian teacher's worst foes are often men of his own colour, his own country, and, professedly, of his own religion. Our readers will be glad to have some particulars as to the saddest scene of missionary disaster. They are less discouraging than might have been anticipated. In visiting Eramanga a number of natives came to meet them.

"They were all clothed, and had nothing in their appearance indicative of the degradation and ferocity which we are wont to associate with the Eramangans. We found that they were parties who had been attached to Mr. Gordon, and as they gathered round us, and manifested the depth of their grief by silent tears, some of us were ready to mingle our tears with theirs, while we rejoiced to find that some rays of light and some traces of life are still found in this land of darkness and the shadow of death. We had thought that the Eramangans, except the seventeen refugees whom we had found on Aneiteum, were still sunk in heathenism. How surprised and delighted, therefore, were we to find that, instead of this, there is a goodly number on whom the truth has manifestly made considerable impression, who stand aloof from heathenism, and keep up the worship of the true God on this dark and blood-stained shore, and who seem determined at all hazards to walk according to their light."

A new danger threatens the South Sea missions, especially those in the Sandwich Islands. The Lord Bishop of Honolulu appears resolved to assert the most extravagant pretensions of the priesthood, and to employ all the "pomp and circumstance" of a Puseyite ritual to sustain them. That the spectacle of such divisions among Protestant Christians should be exhibited to the natives—that one body of ministers should refuse to associate in prayer and holy service with another—and that the minds of new converts should thus be corrupted from the "simplicity that is in Christ," is sufficiently painful. Surely there are men at home of other spirit, who will counsel the adoption of a course less likely to peril the grand object for which, as its name avows, the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel has existence.

BRIEF NOTICES.

History of the Moravians. By A. Bost, Geneva. Translated from the French, and abridged, with an appendix. A new edition. (Religious Tract Society.) This interesting and valuable work needs no commendation, and has placed itself beyond criticism. The abridged translation is excellent, and as the history as written by Mr. Bost closes with the year 1740, an appendix continues it to the death of Count Zinzendorf, and there is then added an account of the present state of the Moravian Church, based on the statistics of the Brethren at the close of 1860. All churches may learn something from the Brethren, and their history can hardly fail ever anew to inspire pious hearts with admiration and praise, at "what God hath wrought" so remarkably by their instrumentality. — *Poems from the Dawn of British Literature to the year 1699.* (Edinburgh: J. MacLaren.) This volume "mainly, but not exclusively a religious book"—or, "exclusively so, if 'the word Religion is understood as coextensive with 'all the deep and true in man that has an upward tendency,'—aims to present, 'in a compend of fragments, the gathered riches of our older poetry.' It ranges from the dawn of British literature to the year 1699; and the compiler remarks, that not only is a completeness given to the volume by its limitation to the close of the seventeenth century, but that, 'in the 'eighteenth, religious poetry of the loftiest type almost 'died away.' The arrangement adopted is chronological: the first period extends from Richard Rolle, an immediate predecessor or contemporary of Chaucer, to James Wedderburn, of Dundee (1340 to 1564); the second, from Howard, Earl of Surrey, to Dr. Donne (1546 to 1631); the third, from the times of Ben Jonson to those of James Shirley (1574 to 1666); and the fourth, from Sir Thomas Browne to John Norris, of Bemerton, 1711. In looking over the list of authors, every reader will be struck with the number of unusual names. It is not only t — Shakespeare and Milton are wanting—because 'to extract from their writings is to mutilate 'them,'—or that Herbert and Vaughan are omitted, because as 'the deepest of religious poets,' their works are known, and require to be read as wholes; but, that the writings of poets with whom only a very few are acquainted have been laid under contribution, and have yielded 'singularly noble poems' which deserve to be treasured with the best teachings that poetic 'ministers 'of truth and insight' (as the editor expresses it) have bestowed on us. Rolle and Barns, Fitzgeffrey and Wedderburn, Henryson and Norris, will be unknown to many who recognise Drayton and Crashaw, Herrick and More, Sylvester and Donne; and the pieces of those almost forgotten writers will be felt to have striking originality, quaintness, and delicate feeling. It has also the best of the more famous poems of the period it embraces. The book is a very charming and precious one. Excellent taste and judgment have been displayed in the selection, so as to combine highest worth with variety and delightfulness. It ought to become one of the ever accessible books of the family, and one of the chosen companions of the thoughtful man's retirement. We wish the editor may find such a glad welcome for these 'gifts from the old times,' that he may be encouraged to give us the future volume he speaks of, gathered mainly from our own century. The volume is tastefully produced on toned paper, and in a pretty and somewhat novel cloth-binding.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

The Exodus of Israel. By T. R. Birks. Religious Tract Society.—Shilling Books for Leisure Hours. Do.—Resources of a Nation. By Rowland Hamilton. Macmillan.—Dr. Woolley's Lectures in Australia. Do.—The Sin of Conformity. By Wm. Robinson. Heaton.—Dr. W. A. Scott's Reply to Dr. Colenso. Freeman.—The Hon. Judge Marshall's full Review and Exposure of Dr. Colenso. Freeman.—Noel's Freedom and Slavery in America. Nisbet.—Mrs. Ellis' Madagascar. Nisbet.—J. S. Laurie's 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th Standard Readers. Longman.—Hinchbridge Haunted. Darton and Co.—Life of John Anderson. Edited by Harper Twelvemtree. Tweedie.—Æone; or, Before the Dawn. A. and C. Black.—De Porquet's French Readings for Little Folks. Simpkin.—Prayer and the Divine Order. By Thomas Hughes. Hamilton.—The Israel of the Alps. Griffin and Co.—Lays and Poems on Italy. By F. A. Mackay. Bell and Daldy.—Pattie Durant. Virtue Brothers.—On Education and the Duties of Civil Life. By James Mott. A. W. Bennett.—Ulrich von Hutten. Translated by Archibald Young. T. and T. Clark.—Bonds but not Bondage. By Rev. George Martin. J. Snow.—Hints on the Formation of Local Museums. Hardwicke.—The Bible in the Workshop Part I. Kent.—The Gospel Narrative Vindicated. By Johannes von Gumpach. S. Bagster and Sons.—The Family Gazetteer and Atlas. By Dr. Bryce and W. and A. K. Johnston. Parts IX to XII. Wesley.—What is Sabbath-breaking? Edmonston and Douglas.—Parcel of Serials from Beeton and Co.

LITERATURE AND ART.

Madame Lind-Goldschmidt, it is said, intends to give a series of concerts in London during the season, in the course of which she will revive Handel's famous cantata, *L'Allegro ed il Penseroso*.

The professorship of music in Gresham College has become vacant by the death of Mr. Edward Taylor. Mr. Hullah is a candidate for the office.

Father Gavazzi, the anti-papal orator, is about to establish a weekly journal called the *Hope of Italy* at Florence.

Mr. J. F. Maguire, M.P., is preparing a "Life of Father Mathew," which will appear in the autumn.

The Family Bible, as is well known, has long been used as a family register of marriages, births, and deaths, especially in the United States, where the practice of introducing a number of ruled leaves headed "Family Record," between the Old and New Testament, much prevails. To this an enterprising publisher of Philadelphia has now added leaves of cardboard, arranged as in a photographic album, to contain likenesses, so that the Family Bible will now become the family portrait book.

The *Iron Times* quietly expired on Thursday, after an existence of about nine weeks.

The *Daily Telegraph* states that the report of its being bought by the *Times* is entirely without foundation.

In the coprolite mine in the Speeton cliffs, on the east Yorkshire coast, an interesting geological discovery has just been made at a depth of nearly 150 feet from the surface. The superintendent of the mine has had carefully uncovered an immense saurian, which judging from the large size of the paddle bones and great length of fossil remains, it is expected will prove to be a new variety of *Plesiosaurus*.

MR. KINGLAKE'S ROMANCE OF HISTORY.—Capt. Wm. Robert Mends, C.B., who displayed such marked ability in command of Sir Edmund Lyons's celebrated ship *Agamemnon*, and who, under that distinguished officer's direction, planned and superintended the whole of the details connected with the embarkation, transfer, and landing of the British army in the Crimea, has addressed a letter to the *Times*, repudiating the statement made in Mr. Kinglake's book respecting the wilful displacement by the French of a buoy, set as a mark to denote the place of landing; in fact, denying, on the part of himself and the officers connected with the operation, all knowledge of the existence of any such buoy. At the same time Captain Mends takes occasion to testify to the chivalrous loyalty and good feeling which on that and every other occasion, during two years' service, the officers of the French navy displayed in conjunction with those of the British fleet. Colonel William Norcott—the officer who so gallantly led the skirmishing wing of the 2nd Battalion of Rifles—has also published a letter complaining of Mr. Kinglake's statement of his position in the battle of the Alma, calculated to damage the reputation which he has maintained unblemished through a service of thirty-seven years.

Law and Police.

THE ARSENICAL POISONINGS AT MARCHAN-LE-FEN.—The trial of John Garner and Hannah, his wife, for the wilful murder of Hannah Garner, the first wife of the male prisoner, and Jemima Garner, his mother, was commenced at the Lincoln assizes on Tuesday, and concluded on Wednesday. It appeared that the female prisoner married John Garner last year, having been previously in his service. The male prisoner's first wife died in March, 1861, her symptoms being those of arsenical poisoning. After her death the prisoner's mother went to live with them, and did so up to the time of her death, the household being all the time in a most unhappy state. Garner kept a grocer's shop, in which he sold arsenic and milk; and on one occasion, some milk being given to a neighbour, and a pudding made of it, the whole family were seized with symptoms of poisoning. About this time Jemima Garner was taken ill, and, although apparently in a very dangerous state, the prisoner refused to send for a doctor. On the Saturday previous to her death a young woman in the house noticed that there was a deposit at the bottom of a bottle from which the deceased was in the habit of taking laudanum, and which she described as being like wet mortar. On the day of her death the male prisoner mixed some arrowroot for Jemima Garner, remarking at the same time that he hoped it would be the last she would eat. Several witnesses were examined in corroboration of the above facts. The jury found both the prisoners guilty of manslaughter. The learned Judge, in sentencing the prisoners, said that the jury had taken a very merciful view of their case, but that he felt bound to pass upon them the severest sentence of the law. His lordship then sentenced them to penal servitude for life.

THE MURDER ON CHATHAM LINE.—At the Maidstone assizes, on Wednesday, the Court tried the case of the young man Burton, eighteen years old, indicted for the murder of a boy on Chatham Lines last summer. The prisoner, the day after the act, gave himself up to the police. The case was very simple, though very shocking. The young man himself stated that he had felt an impulse to kill some one; that he had sharpened his knife for the purpose, and went out to find somebody on whom he should use it; that the poor boy was the first person he saw; that he followed him to a convenient place upon the Lines, knocked him down, cut his throat, knelt upon him, and pressed the blood out of him until he was dead. This was the account which the prisoner had himself given of the act, and the only question was as to his accountability for it. He was indicted at the winter assizes, before Mr. Justice Byles, who, in charging the grand jury upon the case, said he could see nothing in the circumstances to warrant them in supposing that the prisoner was not responsible for his actions, and the grand jury returned a true bill for murder, on which he was arraigned. The counsel retained for his defence, however, applied for the postponement of his trial, in order to afford time to obtain evidence as to the state of his mind. Accordingly, this application having been acceded to, the case stood for trial at

STREET SINGERS. The prisoner was found guilty, and sentenced to be hung. Though he had listened throughout with serious attention, he assumed at the close the air of callous indifference which seemed his habitual expression; and, after a pause of a few moments, in which a sense of awe seemed to struggle with a desire to take a tone of bravado, he evidently almost forced himself to braver it out, and, with an impudent smile, said, "Thank you, my Lord," and went quickly down the dock, followed by an audible murmur, and almost a cry of horror, from a densely-crowded audience.

Miscellaneous News.

THE NEW CONFEDERATE LOAN has been introduced. The loan consists of 3,000,000*l.* of seven per cent. bonds, offered at 90 per cent., but lenders are to be entitled to exchange their bonds against cotton immediately after a declaration of peace, at the fixed price of 6*d.* per lb. The conditions have given satisfaction, and the scrip was at first at four to five per cent. prem. The subscription in London alone exceeded 7,000,000*l.* The aggregate of the subscription in London, Liverpool, Paris, Frankfurt, and Amsterdam is about 15,000,000*l.* The value of the scrip has been declining for the last day or two, and was yesterday 2*½* to 2*¾* prem.

THE CANCELLED PRESENTATION AT COURT OF A TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN.—Our readers may remember a recent *Gazette* notice, cancelling the presentation of a ticket-of-leave man, named Tillett, to the Prince of Wales's levee. It was made by the Duke of Wellington. Some newspaper comments on the subject have elicited the following note from his Grace:—"The Duke of Wellington presents his compliments to the editor of the *Daily Telegraph*, and informs him that the presentation of the person in question was made by him in entire ignorance of his character, and of the fact of his having been convicted of felony. Apsey House, March 21, 1863."

THE LATE PROFESSOR EDWARD TAYLOR.—Our esteemed fellow-officer, the Gresham Professor of Music, died on the 12th inst., at Brentwood, in the eightieth year of his age. All who knew him loved him. And those who had not the advantage of his personal friendship, but from a distance marked his consistent and honourable course, could not fail to admire the high-souled patriotism and incessant devotedness to his favourite science which ever distinguished him. The citizens of Norwich will cherish for his name and memory a grateful recollection which can never die away.—*Norfolk News.* The *Inquirer* says that through life Professor Taylor sustained his part as a consistent Unitarian. As one of the deacons of the congregation at Norwich, he delivered an address on the ordination of the Rev. Edward Taggart; and some other pieces of a theological kind proceeded from his pen. On the broader grounds of Nonconformity, he assisted in several of the Bicenatary celebrations of 1862, and has since spoken of them with pleasure and satisfaction.

SHIPBUILDING FOR THE CONFEDERATES.—The following letter from the Foreign Office has been received by Mr. Thomas B. Potter, of Manchester, President of the Union and Emancipation Society, respecting the building of war vessels for the Confederates, similar to the Alabama:—

Foreign Office, March 11.

Sir,—I am directed by Earl Russell to acknowledge the receipt of the copy signed by you of a resolution of the Executive of the Union and Emancipation Society of Manchester, dated the 3rd instant, in which that society records its protest against the building and fitting out in this country of armed vessels for the government of the so-called Confederate States, and calls upon Parliament and her Majesty's Government to put an effectual stop to such proceedings.

I am, in reply, to request that you will call the attention of the Executive of the society to the provisions of the act 59 Geo. III., cap. 69. It will be observed in that act that evidence on oath is required to enable proceedings to be taken against persons charged with contravening it.—I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

Thomas B. Potter, Esq.

MUTINY AND FRIGHTFUL CONFLICT.—The Peruvian corvette *Arica* is lying in the West India docks. Her crew, 160 in number, half soldiers and half sailors, is on board the hulk *Venus*, in the river. On Thursday the soldiers were ashore and a large number got drunk. When they returned on board they refused to obey orders, and the sailors were called upon to secure the most disorderly. Then commenced a fearful fight. Eventually, however, the soldiers were driven between decks and there kept the sailors at bay. During the fight one of the officers appears to have been thrown through a porthole into the river, where he was drowned. Another midshipman, who was ill in the cabin, died through the excitement. Two of the soldiers were found dead on the deck, others fearfully hurt, and some are supposed to be drowned. At the inquest on Monday, the evidence showed that drink had, contrary to regulation, been brought on board, and that under its influence the men had mutinied. When the captain got on board the hulk he appears to have acted in a most brave and determined manner, quelling the insubordination immediately. Yesterday in the case of two of the deaths a verdict of justifiable homicide was returned. With respect to the killing of Gallejas the jury found a verdict of manslaughter against a soldier named Emanuel Oleva.

MR. HENRY LESLIE'S CHOIR.—The third concert of the season was given by this celebrated choir at Hanover-square Rooms, on Wednesday, 18th inst. The programme was made up of sacred music, with

the exception of three instrumental performances. It is hardly possible to imagine a better performance of the music than that given on this occasion. Mr. Leslie himself is one of the best conductors who ever wielded a baton, and his choir followed every hint of their leader, as if they were one man. The rich quality of the voices, the perfect accuracy with which the most difficult passages are rendered, the delicate gradations in tone and force, ranging from the lightest *pianissimo* to the most energetic *fortissimo*, the complete blending of all the voices, the precision with which all start and cease at exactly the same instant, form a combination of excellencies which we never met with in such perfection in any other choir. The pieces selected for performance were admirably suited to the choir: those most deserving of mention are Mozart's "Ave Verum," Bach's wonderful motet, "I wrestle and pray," Spohr's motet for solo and chorus, "As pants the hart," and Mendelssohn's eight-part anthem, "Judge me, O God." All these differ extremely in character—Mozart's "Ave Verum" is chiefly remarkable for the beauty of its melody and the richness of its modulations; Bach's motet for the sustained gravity of the harmony and the intricate figure combinations of the parts; Spohr's for the skill with which the delicate softness and tenderness of the solo is strengthened and enriched by the accompanying chorus; Mendelssohn's for the vigour and decision of the bass and tenor voices, contrasted with the devotional fervour expressed by the soprano and alto voices, and the final blending of all the parts in a majestic rapture in which the confidence and the aspiration both unite in praise and worship. All these varieties of musical expression were faultlessly given by the choir. Other pieces, of the same high order of excellence, were given, and the whole was concluded by Handel's "Hallelujah" chorus. The next concert is announced for April 29th, and will include another of Mendelssohn's eight-part psalms in the programme.

THE LAMBETH BATH MEETINGS AND THE NATIONAL TEMPERANCE LEAGUE.—Last Wednesday evening a public meeting in connexion with this association was held at the Lambeth Baths, Westminster-road, under the presidency of Mr. Samuel Morley. The proceedings commenced with a tea-party, at which 700 people sat down to a very satisfactory repast. The various tables were presided over by ladies of high position, and the building itself was gorgeously decorated with flags and banners. Over the platform were two immense pieces of drapery, having on the right medallions of the Prince and Princess of Wales, with the inscriptions of "God bless the Prince and Princess of Wales," and on the left the Royal arms were supported by the words (in colours), "Long live our noble Queen." After the company had partaken of tea, Mr. Morley took the chair, and prayers were offered by the Rev. J. H. Wilson. Mr. G. M. Murphy then read a report, which stated that Mr. Murphy not being able to obtain the use of the Victoria Theatre at the beginning of the winter, as they had had previously, Mr. Morley had become the tenant of the baths for six months. Since November 101 meetings had been held, of which 52 were of a religious character, 45 social, and 3 political. Seventeen strictly teetotal meetings had been held, of which 15 were under the auspices of the National Temperance League, and at these meetings 513 persons had signed the pledge. In connexion with the Ladies' Sanitary Association lectures had been given by Dr. Lancaster, Dr. Forbes Winslow, Dr. Richardson, and others. The attendance at several meetings had averaged from 900 to 1,500, and at the Sunday morning services from 250 to 600. There was no doubt that these services had greatly improved the moral and social condition of the people of the district. The meeting was then addressed by the Rev. B. Cassin (of Battersea), Mr. J. Cassell, Sergeant Rae, R.A., and a very handsome gold watch, with a suitable inscription, valued at 20*l.*, was presented to Mr. Murphy by the working men who attended the services at the baths. The band of the Havelock Volunteers and the choir of the York-road Chapel entertained the company at intervals during the evening.

Gleanings.

The Memorial Church at Cawapora has been consecrated by the Bishop of Calcutta.

A few days ago a shoemaker of Berlin, seventy-two years old, shot himself through the heart on account of disappointment in love.

Since last spring about 2,000 Indian inhabitants of Victoria, Vancouver's Island, have died of the small-pox.

New York is at present in a condition of the liveliest gaiety. The theatres are thronged by eager pleasure-seekers, and the pianoforte-manufacturers are scarcely able to supply the demand for their goods.

"The celebrated estate of Chateau-Margaux, the property of M. Aguado," says the *Pays*, "has just been purchased for 2,500,000 francs by M. Cahuzac, a merchant of Paris. The domain was bought by M. Aguado in 1840, for 1,250,000 francs."

The Mayor of Tenby, Mr. C. White, can boast that this is the thirty-third year in which a member of his family has been Mayor of Tenby. An ancestor of his was Mayor when each of the following Royal personages was married:—Henry V., Henry VI., Edward IV., and Henry VII.

A railway over the Simplon is contemplated. It will be 80 kilometres long, 44 of which will be

covered over, 23 carried through tunnels, and 21 in galleries. The construction will occupy about five years, and the cost, including the fixed and rolling material, is put down at 72,000,000 francs.

It is not generally known that the great Peel ever condescended to be jocular; nevertheless, he enjoyed a joke sometimes—as, for example, when his brother-in-law, Mr. Dawson, came back unsuccessful from Devonport, Sir Robert said, "Well, George, I see you are come back, but not returned."

Under the head of "Situations Wanted," the following advertisement appeared in the *North British Advertiser* of Saturday:—"To the Ladies: A very kind mistress wanted for a very pretty (female) kitten, of peculiarly amiable temper and disposition. Apply, by letter only, with real name and address," &c.

LADIES' FASHIONS.—It is obvious that, in head-dresses as in hoops, ladies are fast returning to the fashions of the last century. The *Court Journal* says:—"The head-dresses worn by the ladies at Lady Palmerston's, and all other assemblies, are so high that they remind one of a costume ball. The present fashion among the leaders of ton is to have a quantity of flowers high upon the head."

A WITTY RUSTIC.—A young lady was walking in the parish of Upton St. Leonard's a few days ago, when she observed a "jokin'" scattering some black stuff broadcast over the land. "What are you sowing, my good man?" she inquired. "Sut (soot), marm," replied the rustic. "Well," exclaimed the lady, "and whatever do you expect to reap?" "Why chimberless, of course, marm," replied Johnny Raw, with a hearty grin. We cannot describe the young lady's astonishment.—*Gloucester Paper.*

THE PREMIER AND THE BISHOP.—The following anecdote of Lord Palmerston and the Bishop of Oxford is told in the neighbourhood where it occurred, the two parties being on a visit in the same house. On Sunday, Lord Palmerston proposed to take the Bishop to church in his carriage, which the latter declined, saying he preferred walking, and off he started. It came on to rain, and the Premier, passing the Bishop, put his head out of the window, saying:—

"How blest is he who he'er consents
By ill advice to walk."

"Ay," said the Bishop;

"Nor stands in sinner's way, nor hies
Where men profanely talk."

THE IRON DUKE ON LOVE.—In reply to an application on behalf of a young lady to send home a major on active duty in the Peninsula, for whom she felt so ardent an affection that her life would, it was supposed, be placed in danger if her wishes should not be acceded to, the Duke wrote:—"This fortunate major now commands his battalion, and I am very apprehensive that he could not with propriety quit it at present, even though the life of this female should depend upon it. We read occasionally of desperate cases of this description, but I cannot say that I have ever yet known of a young lady dying of love. They contrive, in some manner, to live, and look tolerably well, notwithstanding their despair and the continued absence of their lover; and some even have been known to recover so far as to be inclined to take another lover, if the absence of the first has lasted too long. I don't suppose that your *prolégée* can ever recover so far, but I do hope she will survive the continued necessary absence of the major, and enjoy with him hereafter many happy days.—I have, &c., WELLINGTON."

A LOCAL PREACHER'S SUMMERSAULT!—On Sunday evening, the pulpit of the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Williamson-terrace, Monkwearmouth, was occupied by a Helton pitman, a local preacher connected with the Primitive Methodist body, who, after discoursing on the Jewish year of Jubilee, proceeded to wind up with a brilliant peroration of unusual force and power. While leaning over the front of the pulpit, and delivering himself with much fervour, he suddenly overbalanced himself, being a man of many inches, and came tumbling over into the singing-pew, to the great dismay of the congregation. He appeared to fairly turn a summersault, carrying the book-board over with him, and probably his descent in this manner saved him from fracturing his skull on the floor. Fortunately, no one happened to be sitting below, and the fallen orator came down with his broadside upon a music-stand, shivering its timbers in a very complete manner. Of course there was much alarm among the congregation, and much shrieking from the female part of it, but our hero was soon "himself again." Rising to his feet with wonderful alacrity, he exclaimed, "Be calm, people, I'm no worse; and, bless God, I believe if I'd fallen twice as far, I wouldn't have been killed." The layman then bravely mounted a bench in the singing-pew, and, though as fervid as ever, managed to finish his peroration without upsetting his second *locus standi*.—*Newcastle Chronicle.*

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

MARRIAGES.

SIMES—LEE.—January 1, at Sydney, at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. R. Moneymont, Baptist minister, Mr. William Johnson Simes, Redfern, to Sarah Emma, youngest daughter of Mr. Isaac Lee, Ann-street, Surrey-hills, New South Wales.

LLOYD—JACK.—January 20, at the Congregational Church, Melbourne, Victoria, by the Rev. Mr. Taylor, Thomas Lloyd, of Stratford, Gipps's Land, to Grace, daughter of the late Mr. Andrew Jack, of Edinburgh.

WALFORD—THOMPSON.—March 12, at Trinity Church, Tunbridge-wells, by the Rev. Stephen Langston, incumbent of Southborough, Mr. E. V. Walford, of 18, St. Paul's-church-yard, London, and the Common, Uxbridge, to Susan, second

daughter of Henry Thompson, Esq., of No. 2, Calverley-terrace, Tottenham.

SHONE-HALMSHAW.—March 14, at Brunswick Chapel, Leeds, by the Rev. J. Sugden, Mr. John Henry Shone, to Mary, only daughter of Joseph Halmsshaw, Esq., of Camp Hill, Birmingham.

TAKER-BIRTHWISTLE.—March 14, at Salem Chapel, Halifax, by the Rev. W. Reynolds, Mr. Thomas Taker, Skircoat, to Miss Sarah Birtwhistle, of Halifax.

DOUBLEDAY-SPENCER.—March 14, at James-street Chapel, Nottingham, by the father of the bride, assisted by the Rev. C. Clemance, Francis A. Doubleday, Esq., to Sarah Ann, fourth daughter of the Rev. William Spencer, Nottingham.

SKERRY-SMAILES.—March 18, at the Baptist Chapel, Scarborough, by the Rev. Mr. Hargreaves, Mr. Thomas Skerry, to Elizabeth Towse, second daughter of Mr. J. Smiles.

MITCHELL-ROBERTSON.—March 19, at St. Peter's Free Presbyterian Church, Great Oxford-street, Liverpool, by the Rev. J. Paterson, Mr. P. H. Mitchell, of Birkenhead, to Catherine, daughter of Mr. Adam Robertson, of Liverpool.

HARRISON-RAMSDEN.—March 19, at Trinity-road Chapel, Halifax, by the Rev. J. Bastow, Mr. Samuel Harrison, to Miss Mary Ellen Ramsden, both of Halifax.

NOEL-BROE.—March 21, at All Souls' Church, Langham-place, by the Hon. and Rev. Leland Noel, the Hon. Roden B. W. Noel, son of the Earl and Countess of Gainsborough, to Alice, daughter of Paul Broe, Esq.

NORTH-NICHOL.—March 22, at Lady-lane Chapel, Leeds, by the Rev. S. Davies, Mr. Charles Henry North, to Miss Elizabeth Nichol, both of Leeds.

DEATHS.

PATTON.—Feb. 25, at New Haven, Conn., United States of America, of apoplexy, Mary, the beloved wife of the Rev. William Patton, D.D., of New York.

PULLING.—March 12, at Hastings, Sarah Ann, the beloved wife of James Pulling, Esq., of Canonbury park-square, aged fifty-one years.

POULTON.—March 14, at Maldenhead, after a few days' illness, Maria, the beloved wife of Mr. James Poulton, in her sixty-sixth year.

MAUND.—March 14, at Stonehouse, Gloucestershire, suddenly, at midnight, the Rev. Thomas Maund, aged sixty-eight years. He had been the devoted minister of the Congregational Church there twenty-five years. "Absent from the body, present with the Lord."

COBB.—March 14, at 47, St. Paul's-road, Camden-town, in her eightieth year, Jane, widow of the late Francis Cobb, Esq., of Margate.

GILL.—March 15, at 71, Richmond road, Dalston, aged twenty-one, Louisa Margaret, wife of Mr. Frederick Gill, and elder daughter of the Rev. W. Miall.

CUTHBERTSON.—March 16, at Oakhill-cottage, Tintern Abbey, Monmouthshire, John, infant son of the Rev. Wm. Cuthbertson, B.A., of Sydney, N. S. Wales.

CUNLIFFE.—March 16, at 21, Highbury-place, Sarah, the beloved wife of Roger Cunliffe, Esq., aged sixty-eight.

WESTBURY.—March 17, in the sixty-first year of her age, Lady Westbury, the wife of the Lord Chancellor.

ATHERTON.—March 17 (three weeks after her sister's decease), in Albert-street, Mornington-crescent, Elizabeth Saunderson, sole surviving daughter of the late Rev. William Atherton, and sister of the Attorney-General, M.P., in her fifty-ninth year.

GRYLLS.—March 18, at Redruth, Julia, the wife of Mr. Reginald T. Grylls, aged fifty-two years.

GRIFFITHS.—March 21, at his residence at Machynlleth, the Rev. David Griffiths, formerly missionary to Madagascar, in the seventy-first year of his age.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending Wednesday, March 18.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued ..	£28,322,445	Government Debt	£11,015,100
		Other Securities ..	£3,634,900
		Gold Bullion ..	13,672,445
		Silver Bullion ..	—
	£28,322,445		£28,322,445

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital	£14,558,300	Government Securities	£11,193,588
Reserve ..	3,671,064	Other Securities ..	20,191,582
Public Deposits ..	9,343,499	Notes ..	8,863,215
Other Deposits ..	13,038,083	Gold & Silver Coin	875,367
Seven Day and other Bills ..	553,101		
	£41,123,752		£41,123,752

March 19, 1868. W. MILLER, Deputy Cashier.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—USEFUL KNOWLEDGE.—The successful treatment of the great mass of disease is not so great a mystery as many may suppose. Purify the blood, cleanse the liver and stomach, and the absorbent system will immediately right itself. Holloway's remedies effect this project most satisfactorily and completely. Both medicaments may be beneficially used by the most inexperienced, under whose care the very worst of cases will progress favourably and terminate happily by using Holloway's celebrated remedies according to the instructions wrapped round each pot and box. These renowned remedies cure all disorders of the kidneys and bowels, and will be found superior to all other means for mitigating the sufferings of those unfortunately afflicted by incurable maladies. (ADVERTISEMENT.)

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, March 23.

We had a good supply of English wheat to this morning's market, and also liberal arrivals from abroad. The trade was less active than last week, and English wheat sold slowly, at former rates. The business done in foreign wheat was at barely previous prices. Flour was in limited request, and was without alteration in value. Peas and beans were dull, at former prices. Barley of all descriptions met a moderate demand, at last week's rates. Arrival of oats were heavy last week, and the trade continues depressed, and prices are barely supported. There are small arrivals on the coast, and few cargoes remain for order. Prices are nominally the same as this day week.

BREAD.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 7½d to 8d.; household ditto, 5d to 7d.

BUTCHERS' MEAT, ISLINGTON, Monday, March 23.

There was only a moderate supply of foreign beasts and calves on offer in our market to-day; but there was a large number of Hambro' sheep on offer, in very poor condition. Sales progressed heavily, at depressed currencies. The arrivals of beasts fresh up this morning from our own grazing districts, as well as from Ireland, were on the increase compared with Monday last, and the condition of most breeds was good. Although the attendance of buyers was somewhat numerous, the beef trade was in a sluggish state, at Thursday's decline in the quotations. The best Scots and crosses changed hands at 4s 8d to 4s 10d, being 2d per 8lbs lower than on this day week. A few of the inferior breeds were turned out unsold. The receipts from Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and

Cambridgeshire comprised 2,100 Scots, shorthorns, and crosses; from other parts of England, 500 various breeds; from Scotland, 500 Scots and crosses; and from Ireland, 70 oxen and heifers. We were moderately well, but not to say heavily, supplied with sheep. Their quality and condition, however, were prime. All breeds moved off slowly, and prices gave way 2d per 8lbs. Downs in the wool, realised 6s, out of the wool, 5s 3d; shorn half-breeds, 5s; ditto Lincolns and Leicesters 4s 8d per 8lbs. A few very prime lambs sold at 5s; but the mere general quotation was 7s 4d per 8lbs. The supply was very moderate. From the Isle of Wight the arrival was 60 head. Calves, though in moderate supply, moved off slowly, at a decline of 3d per 8lbs. Prices ranged from 4s 2d to 5s 4d per 8lbs. The pork trade was heavy, at barely stationary prices.

Per 8lbs. to sink the Offal.

	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.
Inf. coarse beasts	3	4	3	6	Prime Southdown	5	10	6	0
Second quality	3	8	4	0	Lambs	7	4	8	0
Prime large oxen	4	2	4	6	Lge. coarse calves	4	2	4	10
Prime Scots, &c.	4	8	4	10	Prime small	5	0	5	4
Coarse inf. sheep	3	6	4	0	Large hogs	3	8	4	4
Second quality	4	2	4	10	Neatm. porkers	4	6	4	8
Pr. coarse woolled	5	0	5	8					

Suckling calves, 12s to 20s. Quarter-oldstore pigs, 20s to 25s each.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, March 23.

The supply of town and country-killed meat on sale at these markets has somewhat increased, but it is still far from extensive. Good and prime qualities move off steadily, at full prices; otherwise the trade is less active, at our quotations.

Per 8lbs by the carcase.

	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.
Inferior beef	2	10	3	6	Small pork	4	4	4	8
Middling ditto	3	6	3	8	Inf. mutton	3	6	3	10
Prime large do	3	10	4	0	Middling ditto	4	0	4	4
Do, small do	4	0	4	2	Prime ditto	4	6	4	10
Large pork	3	6	4	2	Veal	4	0	4	8

Lamb 6s to 6s 8d.

PRODUCE MARKET, TUESDAY, March 24.

TEA.—There has been a very limited amount of business transacted in this market to-day for all descriptions, and there is no variation to be noticed in prices.

SUGAR.—Only a limited amount of business has been done in this market, but prices have remained without material alteration. For refined descriptions prices have been without change.

COFFEE.—A moderate amount of business has been transacted in this market for both Plantation and Native Ceylon, and previous quotations are well maintained.

RICE.—For the better descriptions of East India there has been a rather more active demand, and, generally speaking, late prices are maintained.

SALT-PETRE.—The amount of business recorded in this market has been to a small extent, and for the few bargains recorded former prices have been maintained.

PROVISIONS, Monday, March 23.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 379 Arkins butter, and 3,235 bales of bacon; and from foreign ports 10,410 casks butter, and 473 bales and 2,362 boxes of bacon. In the Irish butter market the transactions have been limited during the week, and quotations are almost nominal. Foreign without change. The bacon market ruled firm, and a further advance of 2s per cwt was obtained. Best Waterford sold at 6s on board for shipment.

POTATOES.—BROCKTON AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, March 23.—These markets continue to be extensively supplied with home-grown potatoes, but the arrivals of foreign produce have greatly fallen off. Good and fine qualities are in fair demand, and prices are steadily supported; the trade for other qualities is in a sluggish state, and, compared with our last report, prices are unchanged. The imports last week were only 66 bags from Boulogne, and 71 bags from Rotterdam. Yorkshire Regents 100s to 120s, Yorkshire Flukes 12s to 130s, Yorkshire Rocks 80s to 90s, Scotch Regents 75s to 110s, Scotch Rocks 70s to 85s, Kent and Essex Regents 100s to 125s, Foreign 45s to 60s per ton.

WOOL, Monday, March 23.—The supply of home-grown wool is rather on the increase. Owing to the inactivity in the biddings for colonial qualities, at a decline in the quotations of 1d to 2d, and, in some instances, of 3d per lb, the demand for home-grown qualities is heavy, and prices exhibit a slight depreciation on the rates of the previous week. The demand for export is very dull.

SEEDS, Monday, March 23.—There has been less demand for seeds during the past week, and this morning the trade was quiet. American rapeseed is a slow sale, and is noted as lower. White seed and trefoils are in small demand, and unaltered in value.

OIL, Monday, March 23.—The oil trade is in a sluggish state, and prices have a downward tendency. Linseed oil has fallen to 45s per cwt on the spot. Rape is 5½s to 5½s, cocoa-nut 6½s to 6½s, palm 3s 2s to 3s 2s per cwt; sperm 8½s to 8½s, and gallipoli olive 5½s per tun. French spirits of turpentine 98s per cwt on the spot.

FLAX, HEMP, COIR, &c., Saturday, March 21.—The flax market continues firm, and prices are well supported. Riga is selling at 52½ to 70½; St. Petersburg, 43½ to 50½; and Egyptian, 2½ to 5½ per ton. Hemp is in steady request, and clean Russian, on the spot, is worth 38½ to 39½ per ton. Fine new qualities of jute command rather more money, and rules firm. Coir goods are in fair demand, at previous rates.

COALS, Monday, March 23.—Market heavy, at a reduction on last day's rates. Norton Anthracite 22s, Hettons 17s 6d, Haswell 17s 6d, Hartlepool 17s, Kellie 16s, Wylam 15s 6d, Hough Hall 15s 6d, Tanfield 12s 3d, Hartley's 14s 6d, Trindon Thornley 15s, Worsell 15s 6d. Fresh arrivals, 239; left from last day, 2.—Total, 341.

TALLOW, Monday, March 23.—The tallow trade is less active to-day, and a decline has taken place in prices. St. Petersburg Y.C. is quoted at 43s 6d per cwt on the spot, and 44s for the last three months' delivery. Town tallow is 43s 3d per cwt net cash. Rough fat is selling at 2s 3½d per 8lbs.

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Saving from Death." New Lecture by Professor Pepper on Monday and Saturday morning and evening, at half-past 1 and 7.15. This lecture will be preceded by the Ghost Scenes from the "Strange Lecture." N.B.—The "Spectre Drama" every morning this week at half-past 1 (except Thursday and Friday), also Monday, Friday, and Saturday evenings, at quarter-past 7. Ye Faery Romances of Cinderella—Know ye well that certain jongleur (or minstrel) light Lionel Brough, by much prying into ye legends, hath come righte clerkly to know ye hystorie of Ye Fayre Mayde, Cinderella, and that he will relate ye same unto all comers, at ye Polytechnic, each day, at 4 by ye dial after noontide, and ye hour of 9 after candle.

SAUCE.—LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE.

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